



Trump isn't taking 'no tanks' for an answer for July Fourth

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump isn't taking "no tanks" for an answer on the Fourth of July. He said Monday that a display of U.S. military tanks will be part of a special event he's headlining July 4 in Washington — and an Associated Press photographer saw at least two M1A1 Abrams tanks and two Bradley Fighting Vehicles on a flatcar in a railyard at the southeastern edge of Washington.

Military police were guarding the vehicles, which were visible to passersby on nearby paths.

A U.S. official told the AP that the military vehicles to be used in the July 4 event were being stored at the railyard.

Trump had wanted a military parade of tanks and other equipment in the District of Columbia after he witnessed a similar parade on Bastille Day in Paris in 2017. That plan eventually was scuttled, partly because of cost, though Trump apparently held on to the idea.



Military police stand military vehicles on a flat car in a rail yard, Monday, July 1, 2019, in Washington, ahead of a Fourth of July celebration that President Donald Trump says will include military hardware.

Associated Press

Local officials had also city streets.

objected because of the "We're going to have some tanks stationed outside," damage the heavy armored tanks could do to Trump said Monday from

the Oval Office, appearing to acknowledge local officials' earlier concerns. He offered no specifics on

where the vehicles would be located.

Continued on Next Page



Sharing Menu \$50 per couple



2 appetizers



1 Main dish



1 Dessert

J.E. Irausquin Blvd 64 - Eagle Beach, Aruba - www.asiesmiperuenaruba.com - Closed Mon
Info: + 297 525 4000 (Ext 172) / 588 3958 - reservations@asiesmiperuenaruba.com



**A PHARMACY FOR
ALL YOUR NEEDS**

- ✓ Full-Service Pharmacy
- ✓ Competitive prices
- ✓ Health, wellness and beauty products

Tel.: +297 586 1717 | www.boticadiservicio.com
info@boticadiservicio.com | Unit 8 at "The Cove"



**ARUBA WALK-IN
CLINIC**

- ✓ Experienced doctor
- ✓ No appointment necessary
- ✓ Urgent and non-urgent medical care

Tel.: +297 588 0539 | Or: +297 594 0539
lgbeke.md@gmail.com | Unit 9 at "The Cove"

NO TANKS

Continued from Front

"You've got to be pretty careful with the tanks because the roads have a tendency not to like to carry heavy tanks," he said. "So we have to put them in certain areas, but we have the brand new Sherman tanks and we have the brand new Abrams tanks." Sherman tanks were the tank most widely used by the U.S. during World War II, but they have been out of service for decades. The M1A1 Abrams tank is currently the main U.S. battle tank.

Two M1A1 Abrams tanks and two Bradley Fighting Vehicles will be on display as part of Trump's "Salute to America" event, according to a U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity because details of the exhibits have not been made public.

The Abrams tanks weigh more than 60 tons apiece and were been shipped on railroad freight cars, from Fort Stewart, Georgia, the nearest Army base that has them. The White House declined to release more specific information.

Trump recalled his visit earlier this year to a plant in



President Donald Trump, joined by Vice President Mike Pence, left, and Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar, right, speaks during a signing ceremony in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Monday, July 1, 2019.

Associated Press

Lima, Ohio, where M1A1 Abrams tanks are refurbished. The plant had been at risk for closure but remained online due to

Trump's investments in defense spending.

"We have some incredible equipment, military equipment on display — brand new," Trump said. "And we're very proud of it. You know we're making a lot of new tanks right now. We're building a lot of new tanks in Lima, Ohio — our great tank factory that people wanted to close down until I got elected and I stopped it from being closed down, and now it's a very productive facility."

Thursday's events are also expected to include a military demonstration by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels and other aircraft.

"We're going to have a great Fourth of July in Washington, D.C. It'll be like no other," Trump said. "It'll be special and I hope a lot of people come. And it's going to be about this

country and it's a salute to America."

"I'm going to say a few words and we're going to have planes going overhead, the best fighter jets in the world and other planes, too," he said.

Trump plans to deliver a speech at the Lincoln Memorial during his "Salute to America," which has been added to the regular schedule of Independence Day events in the nation's capital. The annual fireworks display will go off closer to the Lincoln Memorial instead of the Washington Monument, as has been the long-standing tradition.

The event is open to the public and free of charge, but a ticket-only area in front of the memorial is being set aside for VIPs, including members of Trump's family, friends and

members of the military, the White House said.

Last year, Trump and his wife, first lady Melania Trump, hosted service members and their families at a picnic on the White House lawn and the president addressed guests from the balcony. No similar event is being planned this year. Federal lawmakers, local officials and others have voiced concerns that Trump could alter the tone of what traditionally is a nonpartisan celebration of America's independence from the British by delivering a political speech. Trump formally announced his bid for re-election in June.

Interior Secretary David Bernhardt, who oversees the National Mall and has helped orchestrate the president's vision, and other officials have said Trump's remarks will be patriotic. □

pureocean
BEACHSIDE DINING

Aruba's Hottest Spot for Delicious Drinks & Tasty Bar Bites!

SUNSETS | BEACHSIDE LOCATION | FREE PARKING
Served daily from 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Brand NEW bar menu starting at \$8! Choose from:

- QUINOA SHRIMP FRITTERS
- JUMBO RISOTTO CRAB CAKES
- BALSAMIC, MAPLE AND MISO GLAZED RIBLETS
- SEARED AHI TUNA TATAKI
- HONEY BOURBON CHICKEN WINGS

Located at Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort
J.E. Irausquin Blvd. 75, Palm Beach
For more information call 586-6066 ext. 7002

DIVI ARUBA PHOENIX
BEACH RESORT - ARUBA

LIKE US ON

facebook

Facebook.com/arubatoday/



casa del mar
beach resort

You can own your own slice of
Paradise at Casa del Mar

One bedroom units selling now at
pre-renovation prices, **starting as low as \$1,800**



Don't miss your chance contact our sales department today at Aislinn.decuba@casadelmar-aruba.net or call 582-7000 ext. 613

Chief says shorthanded TSA will handle July 4 travel surge

By DAVID KOENIG
AP Airlines Writer

The chief of the Transportation Security Administration says travelers should see only a slight increase in checkpoint wait times over the four-day July 4 holiday weekend despite the diversion of about 350 employees including screeners to the U.S.-Mexico border.

David Pekoske said Monday that TSA can manage the loss of those screeners if it is only temporary. He said the border deployment has not had a measurable impact on airport wait times so far.

"This is a temporary measure. We don't anticipate this would be a long-term measure," Pekoske said of sending screeners to the border. He said TSA can handle the diversion "for the next several months."

TSA expects to screen about 12.1 million people between Wednesday and Sunday for the July 4 holiday period. Pekoske told reporters that Sunday will be the busiest day at checkpoints as holiday travelers fly home, but there will be crowds each day in early morning and again in late afternoon and early evening.

Employees from TSA and agencies are helping Customs and Border Protection agents by performing non-law enforcement duties in connection with an influx of migrants at the southern border. The Homeland Security Department plans to eventually hire contractors for that work, Pekoske said.

TSA says the number of workers — also including federal air marshals — sent to the border may rise to 650 but won't exceed about 1% of the agency's 63,000 employees, 50,000 of whom are airport screeners. Earlier this year, the Trump administration asked Congress for money to hire 700 more screeners. Pekoske said all 700 positions are still needed.

TSA, however, is struggling to keep current workers. It loses about one-fifth of its screeners each year. That means more spending to train new hires, and "it's not good for security either," Pekoske said, "because we are constantly bringing in new people and having to train them up, so the experience level at certain airports will get rather young." Pekoske blamed pay rates that are too low to compete for workers in many cities. In response, TSA has offered retention bonuses — some up to 60% of pay, he said. □



In this Jan. 11, 2019, file photo, passengers wait in line at a Transportation Security Administration checkpoint at the Philadelphia International Airport in Philadelphia.

Associated Press



CORAL SHELL ARUBA NEW!

Coral Shell Condominium

- Heart of Oranjestad, right on the Oceanside
- 1-2-3-4-5 Bedroom Condominiums
- Modern, high-quality Construction
- Marble Floors, double glass Windows, Kitchens fully equipped
- Custom-designed Closets & Bathrooms
- Private Laundry, Parking, Pools, Fitness, Lobby & Sauna



Visit us:
L.G. Smith Boulevard w/ Beatrixstraat 20
Oranjestad
Phone: +297 587 9170
www.coralshellaruba.com



Delay in 2020 census could gum up finely calibrated planning

By MIKE SCHNEIDER
Associated Press

President Donald Trump said he has asked about delaying the 2020 census over a citizenship question, but experts say any delay could gum up the U.S. Census Bureau's finely calibrated timetable for the 10-year count.

Monday was the deadline to start printing the 600 million documents that will be mailed to 130 million households for next April's census count.

For months, the Trump administration had argued that the courts needed to decide quickly whether the citizenship question could



Nana Gyamfi, executive director of the Black Alliance for Just Immigration, left, reads a statement as Gustavo Torres, right, executive director of CASA, an advocacy group for the immigrant community, stands with his activists, after the Supreme Court put a hold on the Trump administration's effort to add a citizenship question to the 2020 census, on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, June 27, 2019.

Associated Press

be added to the 2020 census because of the looming deadline.

"I think it's very important to find out if somebody is a citizen as opposed to an illegal," Trump told reporters Monday. "There's a big difference to me between being a citizen of the United States and being an illegal."

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled last week that the question couldn't be added for now. Trump tweeted that he had asked lawyers if the count can be delayed until the court can reevaluate the matter.

Julie Iriondo, a bureau spokeswoman, said early Monday that she didn't know if any printing schedule changes had been decided.

From a logistical standpoint, any delay "would be a nightmare," said John Thompson, who served as Census Bureau director during President Barack Obama's second term.

The bureau is already in the process of signing almost 250 office leases across the U.S. and has hired 1,500 specialists who partner with community organizations to encourage people to participate in the census. More than 170,000 recruits have already filled out applications for the almost half-million positions being created for the count. The bureau has helped set up more than 1,500 committees nationwide that will work to get everyone to respond.

Furthermore, Congress would have to change the law for the count to be delayed because Title 13 of the U.S. Code mandates that it take place on April 1, 2020, Thompson said.

"I don't think there's any ambiguity, but I'm not a lawyer," Thompson said.

Fewer people are expected to fill out the questionnaires using paper than in years past because the bureau for the first time is relying on most respondents to use the internet to answer questions. Still, printed postcards and letters will be sent out next March reminding residents it's time to answer the questionnaire, and those who don't respond digitally will be mailed paper questionnaires. As recently as last week, the Trump administration's solicitor general wrote in court papers that the Census Bureau needed to finalize the questions by June. Any changes to the paper questionnaire after June would impair the bureau's ability to conduct the count in a timely manner, wrote Noel Francisco.

A spokesman for R.R. Donnelley & Sons, the company awarded the \$114 million printing contract for the 2020 census, didn't respond to an email seeking comment Monday.

If there's a delay, R.R. Donnelley & Sons may have to pay workers overtime and run the presses longer hours, but the questionnaires will get printed, said James Clement, an equity research analyst for the Buckingham Research Group. In a worst case, scenario, the nation's biggest printing companies have underutilized presses, he added. "If there are delays, it becomes a hassle, maybe, but it's not like the job isn't going to get done," Clement said Monday.

More than two dozen Democratic U.S. senators last week sent a letter urging U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross to drop any further pursuit of the citizenship question because it will delay the bureau's ability to conduct the count. □

4TH OF JULY DINNER BUFFET
Thursday, July 4th from 5:30PM - 10:30PM
\$45 per person
Children 6 - 12 years eat for half price, 0 - 5 years eat for free
Aruba Marriott Resort • L.G. Smith Boulevard 101 • 520-6312

Bohemian

BAR AND RESTAURANT

LIVE

WEDNESDAYS
Flamenco
&
Rumba Gitana

THURSDAYS
Sound of violin

FRIDAYS
Stephanie
Easy Listening

SATURDAYS
Acoustic Guitar
&
Loungey 80's

Early Birds Specials
Daily from 5pm to 7pm

3 Courses menu \$36

Escargots Burgundy
or **French Onion Soup**
or **Re- Visited Salade Niçoise**

8oz Grilled Beef Tenderloin
*Served with French fries, and Seasonal
veggies, Choice of Fresh Green Pepper
or Bordelaise (Red Wine) Sauce*

or **Chicken Coq au vin**
*Chicken on the bone braised in red wine
Served with a creamy mashed potatoes*

or **Catch of the day** Add \$6.00

Crème Brulée or
Two scoops of Ice cream

FRENCH CLASSICS & WORLD CUISINE
IN A TROPICAL GARDEN

Tucked away in an outdoor Tropical Garden, Aruban Sea-grape trees in Palm Beach this new and Bar offers Authentic traditional fare like Escargot, Duck Foie Gras Terrine, Bouillabaisse, Salad, Ribeye Butter Maître D', whole Gambas Truffle Brie, Crème Brulée, Chocolate Moelleux. Mediterranean inspired dishes like Ras el Hanout and Rosemary Lamb Shank, Moroccan Lamb Mediterranean Sea Bass, Local Catch, Paella. Our French wine are directly imported from Loire, Alsace, Pays d'Oc, Champagne. If you of France you can visit our sister restaurant in Aigues-Mortes, La Citadelle...

BON APPETIT!

HAPPY HOUR
DAILY 5 TO 7

below some original French Restaurant Coq au Vin Beef Tartare Tuna Tartare, Quinoa flambées au Cognac, There are also Fish Kebbab, Honey Sausages, PATA NEGRA, to name a few... Bordeaux, Bourgogne are ever in the South

JE Irausquin Blvd 83 Between Barcelo & Hilton
Reservation: www.bohemianaruba.com Tel +297 2808448
FREE PARKING IN THE BARCELO

BohemianAruba

Trump lashes out at New York governor, attorney general

NEW YORK (AP) — President Donald Trump lashed out at New York's governor and attorney general Monday, accusing the Democrats of going after him in a "political Witch Hunt."

In four tweets, Trump accused Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Attorney General Letitia James of "harassing all of my New York businesses in search of anything at all they can find to make me look as bad as possible."

"It is very hard and expensive to live in New York. Governor Andrew Cuomo uses his Attorney General as a bludgeoning tool for his own purposes. They sue on everything, always in search of a crime," Trump said. "So, on top of ridiculously high taxes, my children and companies are spending a fortune on lawyers. No wonder people and businesses are fleeing New York in record numbers!"

It wasn't immediately clear what prompted the barrage, which came the day after Trump became the first sitting U.S. president to step into North Korea.

A James predecessor, Eric Schneiderman, sued the Trump Foundation a year ago last month, alleging it was improperly involved in the president's political campaign and private business affairs. Her office has continued that suit.

James is also investigating whether Trump exaggerated his wealth to obtain loans. She issued subpoenas to Deutsche Bank and Investors Bank seeking loan applications and other records related to Trump real estate projects and his failed 2014 bid to buy the Buffalo Bills.

The Trump Organization didn't immediately respond to requests for comment. Asked about the tweets, Cuomo told reporters Trump "says the most ab-



In this April 26, 2018, file photo, then-New York Public Advocate Letitia James, right, speaks with New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, center, at an event in New York.

surd things."

"I have reduced taxes in the State of New York. If he's complaining about the tax increase, the only tax increase is the Trump tax increase," Cuomo said, referring to a change in federal tax law that reduced deductions for many New Yorkers.

Cuomo noted that James

is an independent elected official, not a gubernatorial appointee.

As for her ongoing investigations, Cuomo said that if Trump "has nothing to hide he has nothing to worry about. But I think the tweet shows that his paranoia is once again getting the better of him."

James, who was not men-

tioned by name in Trump's tweet, referred to only as "Cuomo's A.G.," responded on Twitter that her office will "follow the facts of any case, wherever they lead." "Make no mistake: No one is above the law, not even the President," she wrote, adding "P.S. My name is Letitia James. (You can call me Tish.)." □

With online reservations on Super Saver days
No exceptions

SAVE 20%

JOLLY PIRATE TICKETS

SAIL, SNORKEL, SWIM & SWING! 9am-1pm \$60pp Visit 3 Great sites BBQ, Open Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!	AFTERNOON SNORKEL 2-5pm \$45pp 2 snorkel sites Open Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!	SUNSET SAIL 5:30-7:30pm \$32pp Open Bar & Ropeswing!
--	--	---

www.jolly-pirates.com

Offer not valid in combination with other discount offers.

Administration moves to ease drive-time rules for truckers

OPAL, Va. (AP) — Truck driver Lucson Francois was forced to hit the brakes just five minutes from his home in Pennsylvania.

He'd reached the maximum number of hours in a day he's allowed to be on duty. Francois couldn't leave the truck unattended. So he parked and climbed into the sleeper berth in the back of the cab. Ten hours would have to pass before he could start driving again.

"You don't want even a one-minute violation," said Francois, a 39-year-old Haitian immigrant, recalling his dilemma during a break at a truck stop in this small crossroads town southwest of Washington.

The Transportation Department is moving to relax the federal regulations that required Francois to pull over, a long sought goal of the trucking industry and a move that would highlight its influence with the Trump administration. Interest groups that represent motor carriers and truck drivers have lobbied for revisions they say would make the rigid "hours of service" rules more flexible.

But highway safety advocates are warning the contemplated changes would dangerously weaken the regulations, resulting in truckers putting in even longer days at a time when they say driver fatigue is such a serious problem. They point to new government data that shows fatal crashes involving trucks weighing as much as 80,000 pounds have increased.

"I think flexibility is a code word for deregulation," said Cathy Chase, president



Truck driver Terry Button poses with his truck during at stop in Opal, Va., Thursday, June 13, 2019. Associated Press

of Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, an alliance of insurance companies and consumer, public health and safety groups. She said the hours of service requirements, which permit truckers to drive up to 11 hours each day, are already "exceedingly liberal in our estimation."

There were 4,657 large trucks involved in fatal crashes in 2017, a 10% increase from the year before, according to a May report issued by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, an agency of the Transportation Department. Sixty of the truckers in these accidents were identified as "asleep or fatigued," although the National Transportation Safety Board has said this type of driver impairment is likely underreported on police crash forms.

The NTSB has declared fatigue a "pervasive problem"

in all forms of transportation and added reducing fatigue-related accidents to its 2019-2020 "most wanted list" of safety improvements. A groundbreaking study by the Transportation Department more than a decade ago reported 13% of truck drivers involved in crashes that resulted in fatalities or injuries were fatigued at the time of the accidents.

The trucking industry has developed a strong relationship with President Donald Trump, who has made rolling back layers of regulatory oversight a top priority. At least a dozen transportation safety rules under development or already adopted were repealed, withdrawn, delayed or put on the back burner during Trump's first year in office.

"First of all, this administration is not as aggressive as the prior," said Bill Sullivan, the top lobbyist for the

powerful American Trucking Associations, whose members include the nation's largest motor carriers and truck manufacturing companies. "Most importantly, the partnership with them has not been as suspicious of industry as in the past."

Trucking interests had pressed the administration and Congress for the rule changes and last year secured support from 30 senators, mostly Republicans. The lawmakers wrote in a May 2018 letter to Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration chief Ray Martinez that the rules "do not provide the appropriate level of flexibility" and asked him to explore improvements.

Independent truckers in particular have chafed at what they see as a one-size-fits-all directive written by Washington bureaucrats who don't understand

what they face on the highways.

"How can you judge me and what I do by sitting in a cubicle in an office?" said Terry Button, a burly hay farmer from upstate New York who owns his truck. Button estimates he's logged about 4 million miles since he started driving a truck in 1976. He said he's never caused an accident, although he's been hit twice by passenger vehicles.

The regulations have existed since the 1930s and are enforced by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. The proposed revisions are being reviewed by the White House's Office of Management and Budget and have not yet been released, according to a spokesman for the motor carrier safety office.

The regulations limit long-haul truckers to 11 hours of driving time within a 14-hour on-duty window. They must have had 10 consecutive hours off duty before the on-duty clock starts anew. And a driver who is going to be driving for more than eight hours must take a 30-minute break before hitting the eight-hour mark.

Breaking the rules can be costly. A trucker might be declared "out of service" for a day or longer for going beyond the time limits. Many are paid by the mile, so if they're not driving they're not making money. Francois, who was hauling 45,000 pounds of drinking water to a Walmart warehouse in Woodland, Pennsylvania, said he gets 50 cents a mile and earns, after taxes, around \$900 a week. □

Not valid in combination with any other promotion.



QUE PASA?
ARUBA
RESTAURANT • ART GALLERY & BAR

FLORIN FOR DOLLAR

EVERY DAY 4PM - 5PM & 9PM - 10PM

43% DISCOUNT

ONE DELICIOUS DISCOUNT

FREE PARKING
For Que Pasa guests at our parkinglot (5pm - 12am)

WILHELMINASTRAAT 18, ORANJESTAD. OPEN DAILY AT 4PM. RESTAURANT OPEN TILL 11PM & BAR TILL 12AM.
RESERVATIONS: + 297 583-4888 OR JUST WALK IN!! E: QUEPASA@ARUBAWINEANDDINE.COM

FREE WIFI

WWW.QUEPASAARUBA.COM

Glitches snarl start of California's ammo background checks

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)

— California's new ammunition background check law began Monday not with a bang but with a whimper from dealers who reported delays and glitches with the state's online system.

But they said few customers were affected because most had stockpiled bullets or shotgun shells in the weeks before the new law took effect.

Voters in 2016 approved requiring criminal background checks for every ammunition purchase. But the state's latest attempt to deter gun violence only took effect Monday.

Vendors the length of California were frustrated by online snags including their inability to readily log in to the new system that is supposed to let them background-check customers with the state, though some put it down to a predictable learning curve.

Chuck Michel, an attorney for the National Rifle Association and the affiliated California Rifle & Pistol Association, said he will soon cite the glitches in seeking an injunction to block the law. The California affiliate sued last year, maintaining that the new law violates the Second Amendment right to bear arms, impedes interstate commerce and is pre-empted by federal law.

"I've had one customer, and I had to turn them away because I couldn't get into the system," Don Reed, owner of DGS Ammo & Airguns in Sacramento, said at midmorning. "He

seemed a little bit perturbed. ... There's a lot of people feel like they're being held hostage suddenly — punishing the people who've been doing it the right way."

He was reading through dozens of pages online as he tried to log in, but he grouched that "it would take a Philadelphia lawyer to figure it out."

Officials with the state Department of Justice, which administers the program, did not respond to repeated telephone and email requests for comment. The department said in a news release that it had sent vendors regulations and instructions on how to comply.

"The eligibility checks ensure purchasers are not prohibited from owning or possessing ammunition due to a felony and/or violent misdemeanor conviction or warrant, domestic violence restraining order, or mental health issue," the department said.

The state system is supposed to crosscheck one database of people who already cleared background checks when they bought guns in California with a second database of those who bought guns legally but are no longer allowed to own them. The process should take about two minutes, the department said Monday.

Customers pay \$1 for the check. Those who pass get their ammo after clerks record the brand, type and amount of ammunition.

"So far it doesn't work at all. My system doesn't let me



In this photo taken Tuesday, June 11, 2019, Chris Puehse, owner of Foothill Ammo displays a .45 caliber bullet for sell at his store in Shingle Springs, Calif.

Associated Press

access it," said Steve Converse, a longtime clerk at Ade's Gun Shop in Orange, 30 miles southeast of Los Angeles.

Scott Emmett, the manager of the Ammo Bros store in San Diego, said the system was down for the first 45 minutes.

"I sat on the phone for about 40 minutes and no one answered" at the Department of Justice, he said after hanging up in frustration.

Emmett had a single customer by midmorning whose transaction took about 10 minutes instead of the couple minutes it would previously have taken to run a credit card.

"I can't believe the amount of paper it wastes," he said. "This one transaction for two types of ammo was almost eight pages long."

Andrew Hackett, manager of Nice Shot, an indoor shooting range in Redding, 160 miles north of Sacramento, said he would have to turn away customers because he'd had no guidance on how to log into the state system. Customers are allowed to buy ammunition to shoot at his range — they just can't take any home without a background check.

One of the clerks at OC Guns in Lake Forest, 45 miles southeast of Los Angeles, bought a box of ammuni-

tion just to see if it could be done.

"Confusing," said store owner Scott Bodkin. "Just a learning curve. We'll get through it."

Scott Dipman, vice president at Coyote Point Armory in Burlingame, 16 miles south of San Francisco, was frustrated with the online ammunition reporting forms.

"I have thousands of items that I'm going to have to manually type into the system," he said. "There's a learning curve for us to figure out what that the new procedure is, and unfortunately the state didn't give us any peek into what was going on." □

UK Treasury chief warns Tory contenders on spending promises

LONDON (AP) — British Treasury chief Philip Hammond on Monday warned the two contenders to become the country's next prime that their expensive spending promises will be impossible to deliver if the U.K. crashes out of the European Union without a deal. Jeremy Hunt and Boris Johnson, who are competing for the Conservative Party leadership, have both vowed to use a fiscal cushion built up by the government to soften the economic blow from a potentially disruptive Brexit. But Hammond said that unless Britain made an orderly exit from the EU, the government's "fiscal firepower" will all be needed to plug the hole a 'no-deal' Brexit will make in the public finances.

Hunt and Johnson — Britain's current foreign secretary and his immediate predecessor — are competing for the votes of about 160,000 Conservative Party members across Britain. The



In this two photo file combo image, Jeremy Hunt, left, and Boris Johnson, right, who are the final two contenders for leadership of the Conservative Party, Thursday June 20, 2019.

Associated Press

winner, to be announced July 23, will replace Theresa May as party leader and prime minister. Both are wooing the largely

pro-Brexit Tory grassroots by promising to take Britain out of the EU — without a

divorce deal if necessary — while also cutting taxes and boosting spending on public services and infrastructure projects. Three years on from Britain's 52%-48% vote to leave the EU, Britain's departure

has been delayed twice after Parliament rejected on three occasions the divorce terms May's government agreed with the bloc. Most economists say leaving without an agreement would severely disrupt

trade between Britain and the EU, plunging the country into recession. Polls suggest a large majority of Britons oppose a no-deal Brexit — but most members of the Conservative Party support it, and shrug off the warnings of economic turmoil. Johnson is the front-runner, favored by many Conservatives for his popular appeal and his staunch support for Brexit. He says leaving the EU on the currently scheduled date of Oct. 31 is a "do or die" issue and has threatened to withhold an agreed 39 billion-pound (\$50 billion) divorce payment unless the EU offers changes to the current withdrawal agreement. The EU says it will not renegotiate. Hunt, who campaigned to remain in the EU during Britain's 2016 referendum battle, also says he's prepared to leave without an agreement if he can't secure a better deal from the 27 other EU nations. □

Italian judge to rule on defiant migrant rescue ship captain

By **FRANCES D'EMILIO**
Associated Press

ROME (AP) — The German captain who defied Italian authorities and rammed her migrant rescue ship into a border police motorboat while docking remained under house arrest after questioning Monday before a judge in Sicily who will decide if she can regain her liberty.

Sea-Watch, the German humanitarian group that operates the rescue vessel Sea-Watch 3, said in a tweet that the judge will announce her ruling on Tuesday.

Captain Carola Rackete's closed-door hearing before Judge Alessandra Vella in Agrigento, Sicily, lasted about three hours.

Rackete has become a kind of cause celebre for some in her homeland for defying Italy's anti-migrant Interior Minister Matteo Salvini, who has vowed not to let any charity rescue boat disembark migrants on Italian shores. Salvini contends



Migrants disembark from the Dutch-flagged Sea-Watch 3 ship, at Lampedusa island's harbor, Italy, Saturday, June 29, 2019.

Associated Press

such rescues essentially help human traffickers who launch unseaworthy boats, crowded with migrants, from Libyan shores. Prosecutors have opened an investigation against

Rackete for allegedly resisting a war ship and using violence against it, a reference to the damaged boat of the border police, which is considered as a military force under Italian

law. If charged and convicted, Rackete risks up to 10 years in prison. The five officers aboard the police motorboat blocking her path to port on the tiny Italian island of Lampedusa

off Sicily in the early hours of Saturday escaped injury but the side of their boat was damaged when the much larger rescue boat plowed into it. Going into the hearing, one of her lawyers, Leonardo Marino, said the 31-year-old captain would answer all questions. "Ms. Rackete acted out of a state of necessity and didn't have any intention of using violence," Marino said. The lawyer was echoing a contention made by Rackete herself in the last hours at the helm of Sea-Watch-3 that the migrants were in a desperate condition after 17 days at sea since leaving Libya in an unseaworthy traffickers' vessel. But Agrigento Prosecutor Luigi Patronaggio told reporters after the hearing he disputed that contention in court. "There was no such state of need," Patronaggio said he had argued before the judge. □

 <p>ARUBA TOPHOMES REAL ESTATE</p> <p>Seroe Blanco 20 Ph. 297 588 9937 Cell. 297 5938867 alex@arubatophomes.com www.arubatophomes.com</p> <p>A.A.R. MEMBER</p> <p>REAL PEOPLE * REAL SERVICE * REAL ESTATE</p>	<p>PIEDRA PLAAT 5 E</p>  <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, Gourmet Kitchen Brand New, Central Location land: 475 m² / 5,113 Ft² Home: 180 m² / 1,937 Ft² Afl 480.000 \$ 270.000</p>	<p>OPPORTUNITY!!! ROOI SANTO 27B NOORD</p> <p>REDUCED</p>  <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, close to Hotels, just steps away from the Racquet Club, Unique PRIVATE PROPERTY Land 698 m² / 7513 Ft², the premises include a two Bed Wooden Cabin in the back, don't miss this opportunity was Afl 500.000 \$ 281.000 now Afl 470.000 \$ 264.000</p>	<p>ROOI SANTO LAND</p>  <p>Unique!!!! Unique!!!! Private Property LAND Location, Location, Location!!! 1452 m² / 15,630 Ft² Afl 516.912 \$ 290.400</p>	
<p>TANQUI LEENDERT 139</p>  <p>4 Bed - 3 Bath, Fully Furnished Full renewed, Gourmet Kitchen land: 414 m² / 4,456 Ft² Home: 230 m² / 2,476 Ft² Afl 668.000 \$ 375.000</p>	<p>PIEDRA PLAAT 5 K</p>  <p>SOLD</p> <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, Swimming-pool New, Garage, Fully Furnished land: 472 m² / 5,081 Ft² Home: 140 m² / 1,507 Ft² Afl 693.000 \$ 389.000</p>	<p>PALM BEACH 320</p>  <p>4 Bed - 3 Bath, w/guest casita Hotel area, Fully Furnished land: 520 m² / 5,597 Ft² Home: 250 m² / 2,691 Ft² Afl 801.000 \$ 450.000</p>	<p>PARADERA 179 G</p>  <p>3 Houses in One, over 489m² of Land H.1: 2Bed - 2Bath; 130m²/1400Ft² H.2: 2Bed - 2Bath; 103m²/1109Ft² H.3: 2Bed - 2Bath; 130m²/1400Ft² Afl 850.000 \$ 478.000</p>	<p>ESMERALDA 126</p>  <p>5 Bed - 5 Bath in Esmeralda Swimming pool, Full Fenced land: 750 m² / 8073 Ft² Home: almost 300m² / 3229 Ft² Afl 1.050.000 \$ 590.000</p>

Death toll from clashes at Sudan rallies climbs to 11

By FAY ABUEL GASIM
SAMY MAGDY

Associated Press

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) —

At least 11 people were killed in clashes with Sudan's security forces during mass demonstrations demanding a transition to civilian rule, Sudanese activists said Monday.

Tens of thousands of people flooded the streets of the capital, Khartoum, and other areas Sunday in the biggest protests since security forces cleared a sit-in last month. They called for the military to hand over power to civilians following the coup that ousted

longtime autocrat Omar al-Bashir in April.

Nazim Sirraj, a prominent activist, told The Associated Press on Monday that three bodies were found next to a school in Omdurman, the twin city of Khartoum. The three were shot dead in an area where security forces had barred protesters from marching toward a hospital and had fired tear gas to disperse them, he said. One wounded person died on the way to the hospital in Khartoum, he added.

Sirraj said the total death toll was 11, including one killed in the city of Atbara, a railway hub north of Khar-



Sudanese protesters write graffiti on a billboard during a demonstration against the military council, in Khartoum, Sudan, Sunday, June 30, 2019.

Associated Press

toum and the birthplace of the December uprising that eventually led to al-Bashir's ouster.

The Sudan Doctors Committee, the medical arm of the Sudanese Professionals' Association, which has spearheaded the demonstrations, confirmed the death toll.

Authorities said late Sunday that at least seven people were killed and nearly 200 wounded, including 27 injured by bullets during the demonstrations. The ruling military council blamed protest leaders for the deaths after they diverted the routes of marches. □

Ethiopia's leader warns plotters following coup attempt

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) —

Ethiopia's prime minister has issued a strong warning to anyone who would plot to topple his government, following a coup attempt in the country's northwestern Amhara region.

Addressing lawmakers on Monday, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said the attack in Amhara as an attempted coup.

"It was an act to steal power," said Abiy. "The government is now taking measures to protect the constitutional order and arrest those behind the crime. ...

Power in Ethiopia will only be by those elected. This should be underlined."

Abiy also said, "If there's anyone who threatens Ethiopia's sovereignty, we will fight them with a Kalashnikov, not with a pen. Ethiopia's sovereignty is not up for discussion. We will give our lives for it," he said.

On June 22, attackers shot and killed the Amhara governor and two other officials. On the same night in Addis Ababa, the country's army chief and his close friend, a retired army general, were assassinated

inside his residence by his bodyguard.

Ethiopia's opposition are accusing Abiy of using the incident to arrest opposition figures, mainly those in the Amhara region, and stifling dissenting voices. The internet has been shut down since the violence, although some offices and hotels can access the internet through satellite connections.

The government has said it has arrested 225 people, suspected of involvement in the violence.

"Of the hundreds of peo-

ple arrested following last week's incident, only five have so far been brought to court in Addis Ababa. And those five are charged with terror related offenses," said Eskinder Nega, a journalist and government critic, who charged that Abiy's ruling party wants to politicize the anti-terror law. While addressing lawmakers, Abiy confirmed more than 1,200 people were arrested in the past year on terror-related charges, for inciting ethnic-based attacks, for economic sabotage, illegal arms trade, il-

legal monetary movement and also for human smuggling. He added some 1.1 million Ethiopians were displaced in the past one year and three months alone, totaling the number of Internally Displaced Peoples to 2.3 million people. But he remarked some 2.1 million of these have now returned to their localities. But Ethiopians are complaining Abiy's government has not stopped ethnic conflicts across the country that have claimed several hundred lives since it has come to power. □

Taliban bombing in Afghan capital kills 6, wounds scores

By **AMIR SHAH**
KATHY GANNON
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)

— The Taliban set off a powerful bomb in downtown Kabul on Monday, killing at least six people and wounding more than a hundred, and sending a cloud of smoke billowing over the Afghan capital.

At least 26 children were among the wounded, many of whom were cut by shards of glass when the bomb shattered nearby windows, government spokesman Feroz Bashari said. He said a total of 105 people were hurt.

An education ministry spokeswoman, Nooria Nazhat, later raised the number of students who were slightly wounded to 51, from two schools.

The Taliban claimed the attack, which came as the insurgents were holding their latest round of talks with U.S. envoy Zalmay Khalilzad in the Gulf state of Qatar, where they have a political



Afghan security forces arrive at the site of an explosion in Kabul, Afghanistan, Monday, July 1, 2019.

Associated Press

office.

The attack ended nearly 10 hours after it began with all five attackers dead, according to Interior Ministry spokesman Nasrat Rahimi.

Two police, a child, a private security guard and

two passers-by were killed in the attack that began with a powerful car bomb, followed by a series of smaller explosions and a day-long gun battle, said Rahimi.

The Italian-run Emergency

Hospital in Kabul — one of the largest hospitals in the Afghan capital treating war victims — said in a statement that it had received two bodies, including a child. Dozens more injured were treated, many

of them later released.

The insurgents struck during the morning commute, and ambulance sirens wailed across the downtown area. Mohammad Karim, a police official in the area of the attack, said a car bomb exploded outside a Defense Ministry building. Militants then ran into a nearby high-rise located in a crowded market and began firing down on the ministry. Police and special Afghan security forces poured into the area and cordoned it off.

Mohammad Farooq, the owner of a nearby restaurant, said the explosion blew out the windows of a private school, wounding several students. The capital has been relatively quiet in recent months following a spate of bombings, many claimed by the local Islamic State affiliate. The Taliban have carried out scores of attacks in Kabul in recent years, mostly targeting Afghan and U.S. military installations or convoys. □

Iran breaches uranium stockpile limit set by nuclear deal

By **JON GAMBRELL**
AMIR VAHDAT
Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran acknowledged Monday it had broken the limit set on its stockpile of low-enriched uranium by the 2015 nuclear deal, marking its first major departure from the unraveling agreement a year after the U.S. unilaterally withdrew from the accord. Iran had been expected for days to acknowledge it broke the limit after earlier warning it would do so. It held off on publicly making an announcement as European leaders met Friday in Vienna to discuss ways to save the accord. Iran has threatened to increase its enrichment of uranium closer to weapons-grade levels by July 7.

The announcement comes as tensions remain high between Iran and the U.S. In recent weeks, the wider Persian Gulf has seen Iran shoot down a U.S. military surveillance drone, mysterious attacks on oil tankers



This Jan. 15, 2011 file photo, shows a part of Arak heavy water nuclear facilities, near the central city of Arak, 150 miles (250 kilometers) southwest of the capital Tehran, Iran.

Associated Press

and Iranian-backed rebels in Yemen launching bomb-laden drones into Saudi Arabia.

The state-run IRNA news agency quoted Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif as making the uranium announcement. IRNA

reported that Zarif, answering a reporter's question whether Iran had broken the limit, said: "Yes."

"If Europeans do what they have to do, our measures are reversible," Zarif said, according to IRNA.

Zarif did not say how much

low-enriched uranium had on hand, IRNA said.

The United Nations' nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, confirmed Iran had broken through the limit. IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano told the agency's

board of governors that it had verified the development.

Breaking the stockpile limit by itself doesn't radically change the one year experts say Iran would need to have enough material for an atomic bomb, if to choose to pursue one. Iran long has insisted its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes, despite Western fears about it.

But by coupling an increasing stockpile with higher enrichment, it begins to close that one-year window and hamper any diplomatic efforts at saving the accord.

Under terms of the nuclear deal, Iran agreed to have less than 300 kilograms (661 pounds) of uranium enriched to a maximum of 3.67%. Previously, Iran enriched as high as 20%, which is a short technical step away from reaching weapons-grade levels. It also held up to 10,000 kilograms (22,046 pounds) of the higher-enriched uranium. □



Pelican Adventures



Celebrating our 30th anniversary with YOU!

SPECIAL OF THE WEEK: Sunset & Dinner Cruise

Includes snacks, open Bar, caribbean music, after 2 hours of Sunset Cruise you will enjoy a 3 course Dinner at our Pelican Nest Restaurant on the Sea, spectacular view, professional service, Freshly made dishes to spoil your senses.



Visit us at Casa del Mar, Playa Linda, Holiday Inn Concierge/lobby desk/ beach huts, RIU Hut between Antilla & Palace Hotel on the beach, or at our own Pelican Pier located between the Holiday Inn & Playa Linda Resort.

For reservations call 587-2302 (Mon-Sun) Or book online at: www.pelican-aruba.com

PRESENT THIS AD AND RECEIVE \$10 DISCOUNT PER COUPLE

Protesters in Hong Kong break into legislature, paint logos

By KEN MORITSUGU

Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Hundreds of protesters in Hong Kong swarmed into the legislature's main building Monday night, tearing down portraits of legislative leaders and spray-painting pro-democracy slogans on the walls of the main chamber.

The sharp escalation in tactics came on the anniversary of the former British colony's return to China, a city holiday, and reflected mounting frustration with Hong Kong's leader for not responding to protesters' demands after several weeks of demonstrations.

The protesters whacked away at thick glass windows until they shattered and broke and pried open steel security gates and propped them open with barricades to get inside. Police in riot gear retreated as the protesters entered about 9 p.m., avoiding a confrontation and giving them the run of the building.

They stood on lawmakers' desks in the main legislative chamber, painted over the territory's emblem high up on a wooden wall and wrote slogans calling for a democratic election of the city's leader and denouncing now-suspended extradition legislation that sparked the protests. Many wore yellow and white helmets, face masks and the black T-shirts that have become their uniform.

Police announced about 10:30 p.m. that they would clear the area, asking protesters to leave and warning they would use "appropriate force" if they encountered resistance.

The actions prompted organizers of a separate peaceful march against the extradition bill to



Protesters deface the Hong Kong logo at the Legislative Council to protest against the extradition bill in Hong Kong, Monday, July 1, 2019.

Associated Press

change the endpoint of their protest from the legislature to a nearby park, after police asked them to either call it off or change the route. Police wanted the march to end earlier in the Wan Chai district, but organizers said that would leave out many people who planned to join the march along the way.

Police estimated 190,000 people joined the peaceful march, the third major one in as many weeks.

Hong Kong has been wracked by weeks of protests over a government attempt to change extradition laws to allow suspects to be sent to China to face trial. The proposed legislation, on which debate has been suspended indefinitely, increased fears of eroding freedoms in the territory, which Britain returned to China on July 1, 1997.

Protesters want the bills formally withdrawn and Hong Kong's embattled leader, Carrie Lam, to resign.

Lam, who has come under withering criticism for trying to push the legislation

through, pledged to be more responsive to public sentiment but has not responded directly to protesters' demands.

In an address after a flag-raising ceremony marking the anniversary of the handover, Lam said the protests and two marches that attracted hundreds of thousands of participants have taught her that she needs to listen better to youth and people in general.

"This has made me fully realize that I, as a politician, have to remind myself all the time of the need to grasp public sentiments accurately," she told the gathering in the city's cavernous convention center.

She insisted her government has good intentions, but said "I will learn the lesson and ensure that the government's future work will be closer and more responsive to the aspirations, sentiments and opinions of the community."

Security guards pushed pro-democracy lawmaker Helena Wong out of the

room as she shouted at Lam to resign and withdraw the "evil" legislation. She later told reporters she was voicing the grievances and opinions of the protesters, who could not get into the event.

The extradition bill controversy has given fresh momentum to Hong Kong's pro-democracy opposition movement, awakening broader concerns that China is chipping away at the rights guaranteed to Hong Kong for 50 years under a "one country, two systems" framework. The two marches in June drew more than a million people, according to organizer estimates. Jimmy Sham, a leader of the pro-democracy group that organized the march, told the crowd that Lam had not responded to their demands because she is not democratically elected. The leader of Hong Kong is chosen by a committee dominated by pro-China elites.

"We know that Carrie Lam can be so arrogant," Sham said, rallying the crowd un-

der a blazing sun before the start of the march at Victoria Park. "She is protected by our flawed system."

The protesters are also demanding an independent inquiry into police actions during a June 12 protest, when officers used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse a demonstration that blocked the legislature on the day that debate on the bill had been scheduled to resume.

The police say the use of force was justified, but since then have largely adopted softer tactics, even as protesters besieged police headquarters in recent days, pelting it with eggs and spray-painting slogans on its outer walls.

The area around Golden Bauhinia Square, where the flag-raising ceremony took place, was blocked off from Saturday to prevent protesters from gathering to disrupt it. Before the morning ceremony, protesters trying to force their way to the square were driven back by officers with plastic shields and batons, the retreating protesters pointing open umbrellas to ward off pepper spray.

"We are horrified, this is our obligation to do this, we are protecting our home," said Jack, a 26-year-old office worker who would only give his first name. "I don't know why the government is harming us. It's harming the rule of law, the rule of law is the last firewall between us and the Chinese Communist Party."

The extradition legislation has drawn opposition from the legal profession, commercial groups and foreign nations, reflecting Hong Kong's status as an international business center with a strong independent judiciary and high degree of transparency. □

Bolivian economy island of stability but storm clouds loom

By CARLOS VALDEZ

Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) —

Abraham Rodríguez's small shoe store grew into a factory that employed more than a dozen workers during an economic boom in Bolivia when prices for the gas and minerals it produces soared.

Today, he can only employ one worker. He says the tax-free import of goods and the black market have affected his sales and have caused him to go into debt. "My life was better 10 years ago. There were sales and the shoe store grew," Rodríguez said in his workshop located in La Paz. "Today, the market has reduced. My employees left because I couldn't afford to pay their salary."

Surrounded by nations reeling from economic crises, Bolivia remains a rare example of economic stability and growth. And in more than 12 years under President Evo Morales, poverty has dropped steadily in South America's poorest country helped by soaring natural gas production. But experts say his economic model is facing mounting



In this June 4, 2019 photo, women sell coats in downtown La Paz, Bolivia.

Associated Press

challenges, including rising debt, shrinking reserves and devaluing currencies in its main trade partners, and some Bolivians are starting to feel the consequences. Despite the storm clouds, Morales says he must be returned to power in Oct. 20 elections as any change would bring chaos. Bolivia's first indigenous president is one of the few remaining leaders of the wave of leftists who swept into office in South America in past de-

acades.

About 45,000 artisan workshops in Bolivia closed in recent years, according to the Confederation of Micro and Small Enterprises, which estimates an annual loss of more than \$2 billion a year in its sector, or about 5 percent of the gross domestic product.

Thousands of artisans and other workers swapped their jobs and turned to commerce because the sale of imported electron-

ics and other goods from China became more profitable. This meant the number of people who joined the informal sector has swelled to about 50%, one of the region's highest rates. Big industries are also complaining about a slump in the first months of the year, with the agroindustry taking the biggest hit. And there are less earnings from gas exports and a reduction of the market, said Hugo Siles, an economist of the National Industry Chamber.

Bolivia exports most of its gas to Argentina and Brazil. But its neighbors are facing challenges: Argentines are frustrated by a recession, a sharp depreciation of their currency and spiraling inflation. Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro had a big election victory last year but is struggling to advance his agenda and is also coping with a tumbling currency. "Argentina and Brazil have had strong devaluations, and that made them more competitive in their exports," Siles said. "Bolivia has had a fixed and stable exchange rate against the dollar for eight years, which means industries that have a high component of domestic input are affected by imports and contraband."

The fiscal deficit has been rising for six years since the boom in commodity prices ended, and it closed at 7% of GDP last year. This, as well as low private investment,

a sharp decline in currency reserves, the increase in public debt with still-low international prices, and an economy dependent on commodities, are causing "tensions" in Bolivia's economic policy, said Juan Pablo Bohoslavsky, the U.N. independent expert on foreign debt and human rights.

"The fixed exchange rate to control inflation leads to an increase in import prices and a growing deficit in the balance of payments," he said.

Bolivia's external debt rose in March to \$10 billion, or about 25% of the country's GDP. But central bank president Pablo Ramos discarded the possibility of a devaluation of the local currency.

"The purchasing power depends on the level of prices. We have low inflation (about 0.6% in 2019)," Ramos told The Associated Press. "This price stability guarantees purchasing power and we must maintain it."

A few months ago, Morales said the economy was "shielded," but his economy minister, Luis Arce, recently acknowledged that Brazil's crisis will affect Bolivia.

Brazil remains Bolivia's top market for energy, but exports to the region's largest country have plunged due to lower demand and declining fields.

Official reports say that exports fell from a peak of 31 million cubic meters a day of natural gas in 2014 to 23.8 million cubic meters a day in 2017.

Still, the Bolivian government remains optimistic and is betting on continuity. Since Morales took office in 2006, the economy has grown by an annual average of about 4.5%, well above the regional average, and the International Monetary Fund says it will grow at 4 percent this year. Experts, however, warn that growth is largely dependent on savings and external credits from China, while the \$15.1 billion in international reserves reached in 2014 plunged to \$8 billion last March. □

Ex-mayor to face senator in Uruguay's presidential race



Uruguay's presidential hopeful for the Nacional Party, Luis Lacalle Pou, center, celebrates in his headquarters after being elected candidate for his party in the primary election day in Montevideo, Uruguay, Sunday, June 30, 2019.

Associated Press

Associated Press

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay (AP) — A former mayor of Uruguay's capital will face off against the son of a former president in Uruguay's

presidential election.

Daniel Martínez won Sunday's nationwide primary for the governing center-left Broad Front coalition, while Sen. Luis Lacalle Pou

easily won the nomination of the center-right Nacional Party.

The 45-year-old Lacalle had been the party's candidate in the 2014 election. He's the son of ex-President Luis Alberto Lacalle, who governed from 1990 to 1995.

Finishing a distant second in the Nacional Party primary was multimillionaire Juan Sartori, a minority shareholder in England's Sunderland Football Club.

Economist Ernesto Talvi won the primary for the conservative Colorado Party, Uruguay's third-largest, topping ex-President Julio María Sanguinetti.

Forty-one percent of the votes came in the Nacional Party contest, versus 24% for the Broad Front. □

LOCAL



The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors at Paradise Beach Villas

EAGLE BEACH —Recently, Darline de Cuba had the great pleasure to honor Loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Goodwill Ambassadors at their home away from home. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20-35 and more consecutive years.

The honorees were Alonso y Luz Marina Calvez- de Los Rios, residents of Bogota Colombia. The couple has been honored as Goodwill Ambassadors since they have been coming to the island for 26 consecutive years. The couple stated that they love coming to the island for its friendly people, the great selection of restaurants and the safety they feel when they are here.

De Cuba together with representatives of Paradise Beach Villas presented the certificate to the honorees, and handed over some additional presents, thanking them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □



Book Your Classified Ad Online Now

FOR SALE

ORANJESTAD — As per today Aruba Today offers to book your classified ad online. You may choose between text only and adding a picture. On the home page there will be a separate category under the name Classifieds. For our readers it is easy to scroll and have an overview of all offerings, for our advertisers it will be a perfect way to reach their targeted audience. Most important is that the prices are very economic. Try it out to test the result!

Contact us for more information at telephone +297 582 7800 and ask for Liza Koolman or email her at news@arubatoday.com. □





Geo Insular Patrimony Episode XII



Article by Etnia Nativa
Call us at 5922702 and book your experience
etnianativa03@gmail.com
DESIGN BY STEFFEN MAAS



Rock formations and rock Art Sites

Two week ago was the last day permitted by law on which the inhabitants of this Island had their opportunity to express and voice their concerns and documented observations regarding ROP or insular territorial and space management plan for the next 10 years. Document which had to be delivered at DIP, Aruba's Department of Infrastructure and Planning. Remarkable was the impact the Town Hall Meeting made, organized by the Island's Chamber of Commerce and Industry revealing the lack of information available for the general public in finding help to assess their individual situation problems and worries. A consolidated report request answers to the relative importance of all the issues presented that night concerning Island's territorial providence.



Pic. 1 Arikok rock formation and pictograph site in side PNA

We as Etnia Nativa's voiced and share our knowledge in this matter concerning the status and importance of archeological sites, rock formations, historical as well as Natural Monuments, Island's endemic flora and fauna preservation, waste management and demographic impact on the natural environment in relation with UN SDG indicators.

the following 21 lines were taken from the source:

NATURAL PROCESSES IN THE DEGRADATION OF OPENAIR ROCK-ART SITES: AN URGENT

CY INTERVENTION SCALE TO INFORM CONSERVATION - ANTÓNIO PEDRO MARTINS DA MOTA BATARDA FERNANDES - http://eprints.bournemouth.ac.uk/20995/1/Fernades_A-2012-compressed.pdf

"Our Island has a significant collection of prehistoric rock art sites. While efforts has been made in the past to educating the general public to participate in the conservation of our Natural Heritage. The same cannot be said of rock-art situated in the open-air. Very little has been done to understanding and managing weather effects and erosion phenomena affecting



Pic. 2. Arikok pictograph collection in an QD bolder

Each week we share the most interesting and revealing articles regarding Aruba" a destination to be explored " we can find, and so doing uncover amazing and informative stories along the way.



Pic. 3. painting showing form of a man in red pigmentation surrounded by white colored radiating circles

ancient imagery within the relatively protected environments of caves and rock formation shelters. Despite the fact that the number of known sites has risen in recent decades there are few examples in which the weathering and erosion dynamics are under investigation with a view to developing proposals and to mitigate the impact of natural and cultural processes. Most of the work being done in different parts of the world appears to be ad-hoc, with minimal communication on such matters between teams and with the wider archaeological community. From the many calls for conservation of rock-art coming from very different parts of the world it becomes ap-

parent that there are many threats to the perpetuation of this significant heritage. Nevertheless, while some authors reference physical weathering as the most pressing risk, others invoke the negative effects of biodegradation, especially when lichen colonization is concerned. In the present a relevant case study regarding vandalism at rock-art sites is recommended. We suggested that the way emphasis is placed on the different forms of risk has much to do with the specific area of expertise of each researcher involved, and, more importantly, with the different environments where rock-art exists.

Continued on Page 15

Weekly Free Slot or Table Play for all qualified Club members

2X *Double Point Tuesday!*

Earn DOUBLE POINTS all day long!

Use your Players' Club card to play our slots from 10am to 4am and we'll DOUBLE your points!

THE SHOPS AT ALHAMBRA CASINO

Offering a wide variety of Retail & Dining Outlets, Salon & Spa Services, Souvenirs and more.

Subway | Juan Valdez Café | Dunkin Donuts | Baskin-Robbins
Fusion Piano & Wine Bar | TOF Twist of Flavors | Aruba Aloe
WE'R CUBA | Bijoux Terner Boutique | R-Glass | Curated Lab
Hungry Piranha | The Lazy Lizard | The Market
Shalom Body & Soul Spa | The Collectables

Alhambra
CASINO AND SHOPS

Open daily 10am to 4am | J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47
583.5000 | casinoalhambra.com



Geo Insular Patrimony Episode XII



Article by Etnia Nativa
Call us at 5922702 and book your experience
etnianativa03@gmail.com

DESIGN BY STEFFEN MAAS



Rock formations and rock Art Sites

Continued from Page 14

Hence, different settings will determine which weathering patterns are more active and pose more urgent risks to be dealt with by rock-art managers and conservators. The worldwide paucity of experienced rock-art professionals signals that open-air rock-art conservation has not received the attention that other archaeological remains have attracted".

Pictograph/Petroglyph.

In total ca 301 pictographs (including 3 petroglyphs) have been found on Aruba. Of course one drawing can be as little as a point or line that may be meant as a separate drawing by the ancient artist. Still, by count-

ing every separate representation that everybody would call a drawing one reaches at a total of approximately 270 to 331 separate drawings representations over 17 sites.

Drawings that are at tens of meters distance of each other are considered one site, one cluster. In fact, "sites" within a radius of 500 m are considered one cluster.

Arikok site contains one of the most beautiful rock art collections of Aruba. All pictures in this episode refers to this particular site that is situated within the premises of Aruba's National Park of the same name. During the study of the pictographs at Arikok, 4 clusters of drawings turned out to be situated on one straight line, more or less north-south over a distance of 415 m. □



Pic. 4 the famous bird white open wings logo type of the Park.

Veggie Boost



When it comes to veggies the island certainly offers a home-grown selection. They taste delicious and have their specific talents to boost your immune system. Start the day with a 'batida' (smoothie) enriched with a local veggie touch or select your restaurant that offers local vegetable dishes to get the real pure taste of it. **Konkomber chiquito**

This is a sort of local squash, but looks like a cucumber with prickly skin. The taste however is bitterer than the cucumber and the vegetable is smaller in size but bigger in width. Inside is a soft, fleshy pulp and seeds, just like the cucumber. Konkomber chiquito is grown in the island and used in salads and 'stoba' (stew) or on its own in vinegar. The veggie contains multiple B vitamins, including vitamin B1, vitamin B5, and vitamin B7 (biotin). B vitamins are known to help ease feelings of anxiety and buffer some of the damaging effects of stress. Additionally this veggie is rich in two of the most basic elements needed for healthy digestion: water and fiber. Season: year-round.

Jambo

Family of Okra, also known as 'lady's fingers': a green flowering plant. Okra belongs to the same plant family as hibiscus and cotton. A classic favorite dish in Aruba is Sopi di Jambo. It has long been favored as a food for the health-conscious. It contains potassium, vitamin B, vitamin C, folic acid, and calcium. It's low in calories and has a high dietary fiber content. Recently, a new benefit of including okra in your diet is being considered. Okra has been suggested to help manage blood sugar in cases of type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes. Season: year-round.



Bonchi' Cunucu

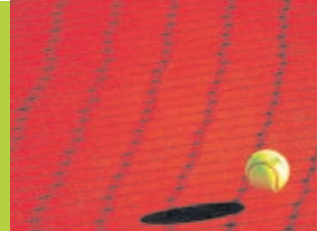
A long, small bean, boiled for a side dish or snack. Long beans have a chewy, crunchy texture—more so than snap beans—and a flavor reminiscent of the dry navy bean or asparagus. Besides stir-fry, soups and salads, the long bean is a good choice for stewing, braising (to remain chewy and firm), sautéing, shallow frying, and deep frying. With cooking, the long bean's bean flavor intensifies. Long beans are low in calories, about 45 calories per cup, and rich in vitamin A and also contain vitamin C and potassium. Season: year-round.

Pompuna

In the endless summer of Caribbean living we only have to concern ourselves with a wet season and a dry season. Still we do indulge heavily in the pleasures of pumpkin and enjoy Caribbean pumpkin recipes year round. A popular dish in Aruban restaurants is Sopa Di Pompuna, don't miss it. This dish is made of pumpkin soup, and parsley. Pumpkins are rich in flavonoid polyphenolic antioxidants such as xanthin, lutein and carotenes and also contain vitamins. Pumpkin seeds are a good source of omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins, minerals and proteins. Pumpkins are used to make desserts, breads and soups. □



SPORTS



This is a 2019 photo of Tyler Skaggs of the Los Angeles Angels. This image reflects the 2019 active roster as of Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019, when this image was taken.

Associated Press

Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs dead at 27; found in hotel room

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Los Angeles Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs died Monday at the age of 27, stunning Major League Baseball and leading to the postponement of the team's game against the Texas Rangers.

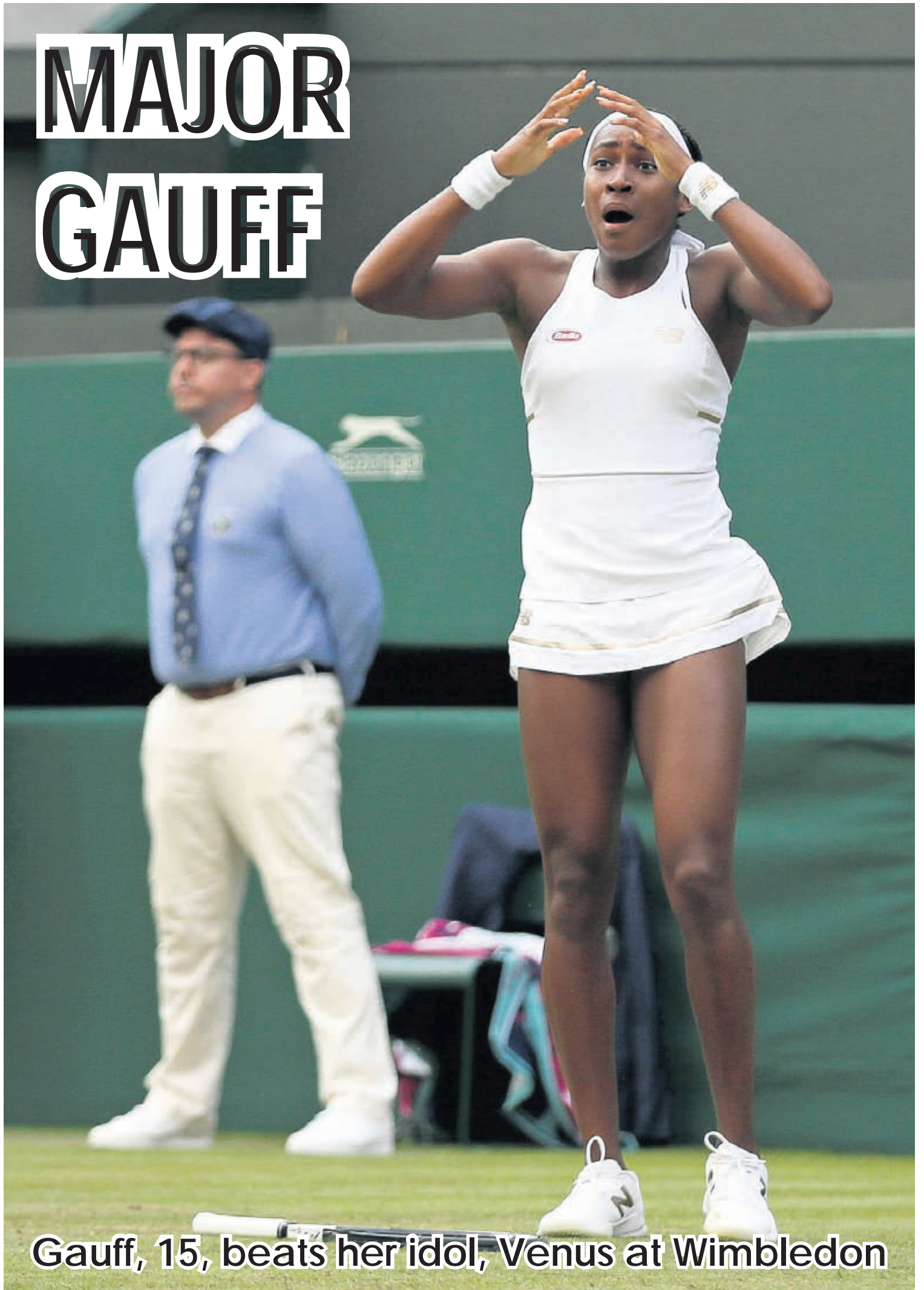
Skaggs was with the team in Texas when he was found unresponsive in his hotel room, police said. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Police said they were investigating, but no foul play was suspected.

Skaggs was "an important part of the Angels Family," the team said in a statement. "Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Carli, and his entire family during this devastating time."

Skaggs, who would have turned 28 on July 13 and was married just seven months ago, had been a regular in the Angels' starting rotation since late 2016, when he returned from Tommy John surgery.

Continued on Page 19

MAJOR GAUFF



Gauff, 15, beats her idol, Venus at Wimbledon

United States' Cori "Coco" Gauff reacts after beating United States's Venus Williams in a Women's singles match during day one of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Monday, July 1, 2019.

Associated Press
Page 18

Gauff, just 15, shocks 5-time champ Venus, 39, at Wimbledon

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**

AP Tennis Writer

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)

— Coco Gauff grew up admiring the Williams sisters. Picked up a tennis racket as a little girl because of them. And on Monday at Wimbledon, still just 15, Gauff beat one of them.

Gauff, the youngest competitor to qualify at the All England Club in the professional era, showed the poise and power of a much older, much more experienced player, pulling off a 6-4, 6-4 victory in the first round over Venus Williams, who at 39 was the oldest woman in the field.

When it ended, Gauff dropped her racket and put her hands on her head. After a handshake and exchange of words at the net with Williams, Gauff knelt by her sideline chair and tears welled in her eyes. Up in the stands, her father leaped out of his seat.

"Honestly, I don't really know how to feel. This is the first time I ever cried after a match. Or winning, obviously; I've cried after a loss before," said Gauff, who is based in Florida. "I don't even know how to explain how I feel."

This was her third tour-level match; Williams has played



Japan's Naomi Osaka reacts as she plays Kazakhstan's Yulia Putintseva in a Women's singles match during day one of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Monday, July 1, 2019. Associated Press

more than 1,000. This was Gauff's first match at Wimbledon, where Williams has played more than 100 and won five titles. By the time Gauff was born in 2004, Williams already had spent time at No. 1 in the rankings and owned four of her seven Grand Slam singles trophies.

"It didn't really seem real, for a moment," said Gauff's father, Corey, between handshakes and slaps on the back and requests for selfies from spectators leaving No. 1 Court. "On the walk to the court, I was walking behind her. She was excited. I was excited. She seemed confident, but I wasn't sure

if it was false confidence or she really was. I just said to her: This match is really magical. Just enjoy it. Your first Wimbledon main draw and you're on a main court against somebody you looked up to from the beginning."

It was by far the most anticipated match of Day 1 at the grass-court tournament, but hardly the only upset. Two-time major champion Naomi Osaka, who was No. 1 until a week ago, lost 7-6 (4), 6-2 to Yulia Putintseva, joining two young members of the men's top-10, No. 6 seed Alexander Zverev and No. 7 seed Stefanos Tsitsipas, on the way out.

This one, though, was special, potentially the sort of changing-of-the-guard moment that people could remember for years.

Gauff certainly has the mindset of someone who intends to go far.

"I've said this before: I want to be the greatest. My dad told me that I could do this when I was 8. Obviously you never believe it. I'm still, like, not 100 percent confident. But, like, you have to just say things. You never know what happens," she said. "If I went into this match saying, 'Let's see how many

games I can get against her,' then I most definitely would not have won. My goal was to play my best. My dream was to win. That's what happened."

How far does she think she can fare this fortnight?

"My goal," she said, her face expressionless, "is to win it."

Well, then ...

Gauff came into the week outside the top 300 but was granted a wild card by the All England Club to enter qualifying. She rolled through those rounds at a nearby site, knocking off the event's top seed.

But this was a whole other task. Gauff was sensational and showed zero signs that the moment or the match-up was too daunting for her. It's the sort of unusual calm and steady way she has progressed through the various levels of youth tennis, including reaching the U.S. Open junior final at 13 and winning the French Open junior title at 14.

The first set was remarkable: Gauff had 10 winners to only two unforced errors, all the while trading powerful groundstrokes at the baseline with Williams, and never facing a break point. "The sky's the limit," Williams said. "It really is." □

Wimbledon makes change in using Miss or Mrs. on court

By **CHRIS LEHOURITES**

AP Sports Writer

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)

— Wimbledon has tinkered with its traditional naming titles for this year's tournament.

Spectators at the All England Club and those watching at home will still hear the chair umpire refer to female players as Miss, Mrs. or Ms., but only at certain times — in the same instances that they will use Mr. for the male players.

The titles will still be used for both women and men when it comes to code violations, medical announcements and player challenges, according to the All England Club.

Heather Watson, a British player who is making her



Britain's Heather Watson celebrates after beating United States' Caty McNally to win their Women's singles match during day one of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Monday, July 1, 2019. Associated Press

10th appearance at Wimbledon, didn't even notice the change while beating Caty McNally of the United States 7-6 (3), 6-2 on Mon-

day in the first round. But she was all for it.

"Equality is always good," Watson said.

In the past, the chair um-

pire would use the titles at the end of each game during women's matches, and at the end of the match. But not for men's matches. So when Watson won a game in the past, the chair umpire would announce, "Game, Miss Watson." But for a men's match, the announcement would just be, "Game, Federer," in the case of eight-time Wimbledon champion Roger Federer.

The topic of using the titles came up last year, the first year Serena Williams played at the All England Club as a married woman. Instead of, "Game, Miss Williams," it was, "Game, Mrs. Williams." This year, assuming she wins a game in her first-round match on

Tuesday, the chair umpire will say, "Game, Williams." Novak Djokovic, a four-time Wimbledon winner and the defending champion, said he hadn't noticed that the club made the change for this year's tournament.

"I don't know, to be honest, how I feel about it," said Djokovic, who beat Philipp Kohlschreiber 6-3, 7-5, 6-3. "I thought that tradition was very unique and very special. I thought it was nice." But after being told that the reason for the change could be in the interest of gender equality, Djokovic was on board.

"I mean, sure, if that is the reason, then why not?" the top-seeded Serb said. "I support that." □

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: Hook and Cook your Own Fish!



Oranjestad- Renaissance Marina Downtown is home to the Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood. Herby senior and Herby Junior both share a passion and love for fishing. They know what the local waters have to offer and what fresh fish really means. Over 30 years ago, the idea for the fishing charter was born.

Captain Herby would catch the fish to be served at the restaurant the same day. That concept still lives, what is 'hooked' during the day is cooked in the evening at the restaurant.

Herby shares his experience with his crew, who take out guests daily on their tournament rigged 35ft twin engine

Bertram "Driftwood" or on their more spacious 37ft twin engine Bertram called "Living Easy". Both yachts are available for charters from 8am to 12 noon, or from 1 to 5pm (6-hour trips also available). To book a fishing charter visit www.driftwoodfishingcharters.com or call Herbert direct at (297)-5924040.



Have an authentic seafood dining experience at Driftwood Restaurant, situated in the characteristic downtown Oranjestad. This comfortable downtown restaurant has a long tradition (30 years) of serving the freshest fish, the biggest shrimp, and the most succulent Caribbean Lobster.

Opening Hours: 5:00pm to 10:30pm (closed on Sundays)

For reservations visit www.driftwoodaruba.com or call (297)-5832515

Address: Klipstraat 12. Oranjestad, Aruba

TYLER SKAGGS

Continued from Page 17

He struggled with injuries repeatedly over the past three seasons but persevered to become a valuable starter in Los Angeles' injury-plagued rotation. The left-hander had just pitched on Saturday, allowing two runs in 4 1/3 innings in a 4-0 loss to Oakland. He was scheduled to start the series finale at Texas, on the Fourth of July holiday.

A photo of Angels players wearing cowboy hats by their plane was posted on Skaggs' Instagram account Sunday, with the pitcher writing "Howdy y'all" and making a reference to the team's road trip to Texas. The Angels are scheduled to go to Houston for a three-game series this weekend after playing the Rangers.

Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred said he was "deeply saddened" by Skaggs' death.

"We will support the Angels' organization through this most difficult period, and we will make a variety of

resources available to Tyler's teammates and other members of the baseball family," Manfred said in a statement.

Skaggs is the first Angels player to die during a season since Nick Adenhart was killed by a drunken driver 10 years ago. The 22-year-old rookie right-hander was coming off his first start of the 2019 season, his fourth career game in the big leagues.

Jose Fernandez, a two-time All-Star pitcher for the Miami Marlins, was killed in a boating crash near Miami Beach, Florida, in September 2016. He was 24.

Pitcher Darryl Kile, who played in the majors for 12 seasons (1992-2002) was on the road with the St. Louis Cardinals when he died in June 2002 in his Chicago hotel room at age 33. Albert Pujols, now a member of the Angels, was Kile's teammate then.

Angels players and coaches who had arrived at the Rangers' ballpark for Monday night's series opener left about three hours be-

fore the scheduled start of the game to return to their hotel. The clubhouse was never opened to the media.

The Rangers' clubhouse also was closed when general manager Jon Daniels and manager Chris Woodward told their players what had happened and dismissed them.

Woodward described it as "one of those moments where you're just kind of numb" and said the Rangers were thinking about Skaggs' family and the Angels organization.

"There were a lot of pretty emotional guys in there, you could tell. Some guys knew him. (Jesse Chavez) had actually played with him in LA," Woodward said. "Some guys that didn't even know him were visibly shaken. You could tell."

Rangers officials said there had been no discussions on the status of Tuesday's game or the rest of what was supposed to be a four-game series. They said only that Monday's game would not be made up this week.



Los Angeles Angels starting pitcher Tyler Skaggs throws to the Oakland Athletics during the first inning of a baseball game Saturday, June 29, 2019, in Anaheim, Calif.

Associated Press

"Real life takes precedence here," Daniels said. "Some things are a lot bigger than baseball."

Skaggs was born in the Los Angeles neighborhood of Woodland Hills, in the far western part of the sprawling San Fernando Valley. He graduated from Santa Monica High School in 2009, when the Angels drafted him in the first round.

The Angels traded Skaggs to Arizona in 2010, and he

started his big league career with 13 appearances over two seasons for the Diamondbacks. The Angels reacquired him in December 2013, and he won 25 games over five seasons with the club.

Skaggs started a career-high 24 games last season, going 8-10 with a 4.02 ERA. He missed playing time in April this season with a sprained ankle but came back strong. □

Klay Thompson staying home, Jimmy Butler-to-Miami gets done

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Basketball Writer

Klay Thompson is staying home with Golden State. Jimmy Butler finally has a new home in Miami.

And the wait continues for Kawhi Leonard.

Thompson announced his decision to stay with the Golden State Warriors for \$190 million over the next five years, meaning the five-time reigning Western Conference champions have their 'Splash Brothers' backcourt of Thompson and Stephen Curry locked up long-term. Thompson made the announcement on social media, using the hashtag "Warrior4life."

He added, "there was never a doubt."

There's still plenty of doubt about Kawhi Leonard's next stop. The first 24 hours of free agency have come and gone without a peep from the NBA Finals MVP, who is expected to meet with the Toronto Raptors — the team he led to this past season's NBA title — as early as Tuesday. The Los Angeles Lakers also appear to remain squarely in the race to land him to play alongside LeBron James and Anthony Davis.

But there is no more doubt about Butler's future.

The Heat completed agreements on what will become a four-team trade



In this Nov. 13, 2018 file photo Philadelphia 76ers' Jimmy Butler speaks with members of the media during a news conference at the NBA basketball team's practice facility in Camden, N.J.

Associated Press

Monday to land Butler from the Philadelphia 76ers, with the Los Angeles Clippers and Portland Trail Blazers also involved. Miami gets Butler and Meyers Leonard, the Blazers get Hassan Whiteside, the Clippers get Harkless and a future first-round pick and the 76ers get Josh Richardson.

Miami had agreed to send Whiteside to Portland for Harkless and Meyers Leonard earlier in the day, and then essentially got absorbed into the deal to get Butler — who will be under contract for \$142 million

over the next four seasons. The Heat had the framework of a three-team deal with the 76ers and Dallas nearly in place Sunday, before the Mavericks went a different way.

"Anybody got kawhi number??" Harkless wrote on Twitter after he was headed to the Clippers in that four-team deal.

Kyrie Irving made his move to the Brooklyn Nets on a four-year deal believed to be worth \$141 million official, with the New York native saying the lure of going home was too strong to ig-

nore.

"Home is where my family is," Irving said in a video posted by his new representation, Roc Sports. "Home is where I want my legacy to continue. And I'm happy to be in Brooklyn."

Irving had been with the Boston Celtics. His replacement in next season's Celtics lineup will be Kemba Walker, who explained his decision to leave Charlotte for Boston in an essay published Monday by The Players Tribune.

"I feel like it's a match made in heaven," Walker wrote. "I

want to win here, badly — and I'm excited to prove myself as that type of player in this league. I want to elevate myself into that Boston winning tradition. I want to get this team back on top."Hornets Chairman Michael Jordan released a statement lauding Walker. "He always represented the Hornets, the NBA and the city of Charlotte with class — both on the court and in the community — and we are disappointed he is leaving," Jordan said. "He's a special player, with a tremendous heart and tireless work ethic. Kemba is truly one of the best to ever play for our team. We wish him and his family all the best in the future."

The New York Knicks missed out on players like Irving and Kevin Durant — who is also headed to Brooklyn — but continued the retooling of their roster by adding guards Elfrid Payton and Wayne Ellington. New York will become Ellington's ninth team in 11 seasons.

And Seth Curry, Stephen's brother, is returning to Dallas. The Mavericks agreed to a \$32 million, four-year contract with the younger Curry, who spent last season with Portland. He played for the Mavs in the 2016-17 season, averaging a career-high 12.8 points per game. □

Sung Hyun Park birdies 18th for LPGA Tour win in Arkansas



Sung Hyun Park holds up the trophy after winning the LPGA Walmart NW Arkansas Championship golf tournament, Sunday, June 30, 2019, in Rogers, Ark.

Associated Press

By **CHIP SOUZA**
Associated Press

ROGERS, Ark. (AP) — Sung Hyun Park two-putted for

birdie on the par-5 18th to win the Walmart NW Arkansas Championship on Sunday for her second LPGA

Tour victory of the season and seventh overall.

The 25-year-old Park is projected to move from second to first in the world ranking Monday. She will take the top spot from friend Jin Young Ko, the fellow South Korean player who poured water over Park's head on the 18th green.

"It would definitely be good to be back on the top, but to be honest, there was a lot of pressure when I was the No. 1," Park said through a translator. "But I wouldn't want to sort of keep that in mind, because I would be under pressure. But then again, it would feel nice to be the No. 1."

Park closed with a 5-under

66 to finish at 18-under 195 at Pinnacle Country Club. She tapped in a putt not much more than a foot on the 18th to beat Danielle Kang, Hyo Joo Kim and Inbee Park by a stroke.

"To be honest, my round today didn't go as well as I thought it would," Sung Hyun Park said. "I knew that it was important to make a lot of birdies on the front nine, but there were a lot of opportunities. ... But I talked with my caddie, and we both said there's still a lot of hope left. Every single shot was really important."

Kang, Kim and Inbee Park each shot 65, with Kang playing the final five holes in 5 under with an eagle on

the par-5 14th and birdies on the last three.

"I definitely finished well," Kang said. "I gave everything I got the last nine holes, so came up one shot short. Wish we could have gone to playoff, but I knew that Sung Hyun was going to have an iron in on the last hole." She did, and from only 164 yards. She hit about 30 feet left of the flag to set up the two-putt birdie Sung Hyun Park birdied all four par-5 holes in the final round. She played the 18th in 4 under for the three rounds, making an eagle Friday and a birdie Saturday for a share of the second-round lead with Carlota Ciganda. □

Dodgers rebound in 10-5 win over Rox for series split

By The Associated Press
DENVER (AP) — Joc Pederson had three hits and three RBIs, Matt Beaty doubled twice and drove in two, and Los Angeles rallied past Colorado to split their four-game series.

Kenta Maeda pitched into the fifth but didn't figure in the decision. He had a hand in the Dodgers' first two runs, though, singling and scoring in the third and laying down a sacrifice bunt that helped bring Kiké Hernández home in the fifth.

Dylan Floro (3-2) got two outs to pick up the win and Julio Urias helped keep the Rockies in check with three scoreless innings in relief.

Chad Bettis (1-4) was charged with six runs while getting one out.

BREWERS 2, PIRATES 1
MILWAUKEE (AP) — Eric Thames homered leading off the eighth inning, and Milwaukee beat Pittsburgh. Thames, who entered as a pinch-hitter in the sixth, blasted an 0-1 pitch from Pirates reliever Kyle Crick (3-4) to straightaway center, a 432-foot shot that hit just below the scoreboard. Milwaukee took two of three from its NL Central rival and moved into a first-place tie with the Chicago Cubs, who lost to Cincinnati. The Brewers finished their homestand at 5-5.

Jeremy Jeffress (2-2) pitched a scoreless eighth, and Matt Albers worked the ninth to pick up his first save of the season.

REDS 8, CUBS 6
CINCINNATI (AP) — Eugenio Suarez ended his slump with Cincinnati's longest homer of the season, Anthony DeSclafani (5-4) pitched six scoreless innings and the Reds held off Chicago.

Phillip Ervin and Nick Senzel drove in two runs each, and Raisel Iglesias escaped with a six-out save despite allowing Jason Heyward's three-run homer in the ninth. Kyle Schwarber also

had a late connection for the Cubs.

Chicago starter Jon Lester (7-6) hadn't lost to the Reds since 2016, a streak of seven straight starts. The Cubs have dropped 3 of 4 and finished June 14-15, their first losing month since May 2017. Yasiel Puig stole two bases a day after a shouting match with Chicago reliever Pedro Strop — Puig was upset after being hit by a 3-0 pitch.

CARDINALS 5, PADRES 3, 11 INNINGS

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Matt Wieters hit a two-run homer with two outs in the 11th inning, and St. Louis overcame a three-run deficit to beat San Diego and snap a five-game losing streak. Wieters' shot off Brad Wieck (0-1) reached the balcony on the fourth level of the Western Metal Supply Co. Building in the left-field corner. It was his fourth and came with Kolten Wong aboard on an infield single. Manny Machado hit a two-run home run in the fourth, giving the Padres three players with at least 20, and Eric Hosmer had three hits. San Diego had its four-game winning streak snapped.

Carlos Martínez (2-0) pitched 2 2/3 innings of relief for the win and Dominic Leone got the final two outs for his first save.

PHILLIES 13, MARLINS 6
MIAMI (AP) — Bryce Harper homered and drove in four to help Philadelphia end a streak of five consecutive losses to last-place Miami. Harper hit run-scoring singles in the first and sixth innings and a two-run homer in the eighth, his 15th. That gave him 199 career homers and 999 hits, and increased his average to .250. Jake Arrieta (8-6) allowed four runs in six innings but contributed a two-run single. Jean Segura and Cesar Hernandez each had three of the Phillies' 17 hits and scored twice, and Brad Miller hit his third hom-



Colorado Rockies second baseman Ryan McMahon, top, jumps over Los Angeles Dodgers' Edwin Rios after forcing him out at second base on the front end of a double play hit into by Enrique Hernandez to end the top of the second inning of a baseball game Sunday, June 30, 2019, in Denver. Associated Press

er and singled in a run. Miami catcher Jorge Alfaro hit two-run homer with a bloody nose following collision in the sixth. Trevor Richards (3-9) allowed three runs in five innings.

GIANTS 10, DIAMONDBACKS 4

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Kevin Pillar had four hits including a homer and drove in five runs, Madison Bumgarner pitched seven strong innings, and San Francisco beat Arizona. Buster Posey had three hits including a double for the Giants, who split the four-game series with their NL West rivals.

Bumgarner (5-7) gave up one run on four hits. He struck out nine and walked none. Pillar put the Giants ahead in the bottom of the second with a two-run homer off Robbie Ray (5-6).

METS 8, BRAVES 5
NEW YORK (AP) — Newly named All-Stars Jeff McNeil and Pete Alonso had the big hits in a five-run eighth inning that rallied New York past Atlanta and snapped a seven-game losing streak. Todd Frazier launched a long homer to begin the comeback and finished with three hits and two RBIs. McNeil and J.D. Davis also had three hits apiece for the Mets, who prevented a three-game sweep by the NL East leaders and won for only the fifth time in 18

games. All-Star starter Ronald Acuña Jr. homered for the Braves. He had three hits and scored three times. Edwin Díaz closed one out for New York's beleaguered bullpen, getting

three quick outs for his 17th save in 21 tries.

Wilmer Font (2-2) worked two hitless innings for his first win with the Mets. Sean Newcomb (2-1) took the loss. □

MLB batters set HR record for 2nd straight month, hit 1,142

NEW YORK (AP) — A month after setting a record for most home runs in a month, big league batters did it again and are on pace to shatter the season mark. The Elias Sports Bureau said Monday that batters hit 1,142 home runs in June, seven more than in May. Five of the top six home run months have been in the last three years. August 2017 is third at 1,119, followed by June 2017 (1,101), May 2000 (1,069) and May 2017 (1,060).

A total of 3,421 home runs were hit in 1,255 games through Sunday, an average of 2.73 per game. That is up 19% from the 2.28 average through June last year, when 2,822 home runs were hit in 1,236 games. Batters are on pace to hit 6,624 home runs — well above the record 6,105 set in 2017 and up from 5,585

last year. Milwaukee's Christian Yelich leads the major leagues with 29 home runs, followed by New York Mets rookie Peter Alonso (28) and the Los Angeles Dodgers' Cody Bellinger (27).

A year after strikeouts surpassed hits for the first time, whiffs remain ahead: 21,871 to 21,554. While there were more strikeouts than hits in March (949 to 848) and April (6,799 to 6,371), hitting has picked up in the warmer months. There were 7,170 hits to 7,137 strikeouts in May and 7,165 hits to 6,986 strikeouts in June.

The major league batting average was .251 through June. That is up three percentage points from last year's average, the lowest since 1972 — the year before the American League started using the designated hitter. □

Comeback lifts Yanks to London sweep of Red Sox

By The Associated Press
LONDON (AP) — Gary Sánchez hit a go-ahead, two-run single during a nine-run seventh inning, and the New York Yankees overcame a four-run deficit to beat the Boston Red Sox 12-8 Sunday for a two-game sweep of the groundbreaking, high-scoring trip across the pond. DJ LeMahieu doubled off Marcus Walden (6-1) leading off the seventh and hit a two-run double against Josh Taylor later in the inning as the Yankees opened an 11-4 lead, sending 14 batters to the plate in their highest-scoring inning in four years. Didi Gregorius went deep against Ryan Brasier in the eighth, extending New York's record streak of games with home runs to 31. Combined with the Yankees' 17-13 win Saturday, the teams scored 50 runs on the weekend, four more than their previous scoring mark in consecutive games against each other.

Adam Ottavino (3-2), the second of six New York relievers, got the win.

Before a sellout crowd of 59,059 at Olympic Stadium, Xander Bogaerts, J.D. Martinez and Christian Vázquez became the first trio of Boston batters in four decades to hit home runs in the first inning.

RAYS 6, RANGERS 2

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Blake Snell struck out 12 over six innings for just his second win in 10 starts and Tampa Bay beat Texas. Snell (5-7) gave up three hits during an 80-pitch outing. The reigning AL Cy Young Award winner had an 11.94 ERA in five previous starts this month.

Tommy Pham homered for the Rays, who won consecutive games for the first time since June 9-10. The first AL wild card leaders went 13-16 in June.

After Kevin Kiermaier had an RBI single and Willy Adames added a run-scoring single off Jesse Chavez (3-3) the fourth, Pham's fifth-inning solo shot made it 4-2.

ASTROS 6, MARINERS 1



New York Yankees' Gary Sanchez hits a two-RBI single against the Boston Red Sox during the seventh inning of a baseball game in London, Sunday, June 30, 2019.

Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Rookie Yordan Alvarez drove in three to back up seven strong innings by Gerrit Cole and help Houston over Seattle to complete a three-game sweep. Cole (8-5), who allowed just four singles after a solo homer to J.P. Crawford, struck out 10 and walked one to win his fourth straight decision. Cole leads the American League with 151 strikeouts this season.

Mariners starter Marco Gonzales (9-7) allowed six hits and three runs while walking three in five innings to snap a four-game winning streak in his first loss since June 2. After consecutive one-run wins in the 10th inning, the Astros didn't need any late dramatics in this one. They padded the lead with a three-run eighth inning highlighted by a two-RBI single by Jake Marisnick.

WHITE SOX 4, TWINS 3
CHICAGO (AP) — First-time All-Star Lucas Giolito (11-

2) allowed one hit in five innings to earn his major league-leading 11th victory and Chicago beat Minnesota.

Yoán Moncada homered, and he and José Abreu had three hits apiece for the White Sox, who won two of three against the AL Central-leading Twins. Nelson Cruz homered for the Twins, who had won eight of nine against Chicago.

Lewis Thorpe (0-1), a 23-year-old left-hander from Melbourne, Australia, made his major league debut for the Twins. He allowed two runs and five hits, struck out seven and walked two in five innings.

NATIONALS 2, TIGERS 1

DETROIT (AP) — Max Scherzer struck out 14 against his former team and Anthony Rendon homered for the second straight game as Washington topped Detroit.

Scherzer (8-5) returned to Comerica Park for the first

time since leaving as a free agent after the 2014 season and stuck out double-digit batters for the fourth straight outing.

Rendon's blast came off Joe Jimenez (2-6), who allowed a home run and a walk to the only two batters he faced.

Detroit's Jordan Zimmermann, who also was starting against his former team, struck out four batters in six innings, allowing one run.

INDIANS 2, ORIOLES 0

BALTIMORE (AP) — Shane Bieber allowed three hits and struck out 11 over eight dazzling innings, Carlos Santana drove in two and Cleveland edged Baltimore to avert a three-game sweep.

Coming off successive 13-0 losses to the team with the worst record in the majors, the Indians turned it around behind Bieber (7-3). The left-hander did not issue a walk, retired 12 straight at one point and permitted only one runner past first

base. Brad Hand gave up two singles and a two-out walk to load the bases in the ninth before striking out Anthony Santander for his 23rd save. He was named an All-Star after the game. Orioles starter Gabriel Ynoa (0-6) gave up one run and six hits over 5 1/3 innings. Three of those hits came in the third, when the Mercado-Santana combination clicked to end the Indians' run of scoreless innings at 20.

ATHLETICS 12, ANGELS 3

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Matt Chapman hit a three-run homer, a triple and a three-run double on the day he was named to his first All-Star team, and Oakland beat Los Angeles to take three of four from its AL West rival.

Chapman racked up a career-high six RBIs starting with his 21st homer in the fifth inning, shortly before he learned of his selection to the midseason showcase in Cleveland.

Shohei Ohtani hit two homers for the Angels, who wrapped up their final homestand before the All-Star break by losing three straight at home to a team they're chasing in the division standings.

Andrew Heaney (1-2) yielded five runs over six innings of six-hit ball for the Angels, giving up Chapman's big shot after a mound visit in the fifth. Chris Bassitt (5-3) pitched five-hit ball into the sixth inning for Oakland.

ROYALS 7, BLUE JAYS 6

TORONTO (AP) — Jorge Soler homered and had two RBIs, Brad Keller (4-9) pitched five innings to win for the first time since May 22, and Kansas City beat Toronto. Justin Smoak homered twice for the Blue Jays but ended the game by fouling out against right-hander Ian Kennedy in the ninth, stranding the tying run at second base.

Whit Merrifield reached base three times and Alex Gordon drove in a pair as Kansas City answered Toronto's five-run second inning with a five-run third against struggling Blue Jays right-hander Aaron Sanchez (3-11). □



United States' Weston McKennie, right, celebrates with Tyler Boyd after McKennie's goal during the first half of a CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer match against Curacao, Sunday, June 30, 2019, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

U.S. beats Curacao 1-0, plays Jamaica in Gold Cup semifinals

By DAVE ZEITLIN

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Christian Pulisic and the United States are headed to the CONCACAF Gold Cup semifinals after an underwhelming performance against Curacao.

The U.S. was outplayed during the second half by the world's 79th-ranked national team but managed to advance with a 1-0 win Sunday night behind Weston McKennie's goal in the 25th minute.

The defending champion U.S. extended its Gold Cup winning streak to nine and will play Jamaica on Wednesday at Nashville, Tennessee, in the second semifinal, a night after Mexico faces Haiti at Glendale, Arizona. The U.S. reached the semifinals for the 10th straight Gold Cup and 14th in 15 overall.

"When you get to the knockout stages, everyone wants to move on to the next round and they're giving absolutely everything," Pulisic said. "Curacao 100 percent wanted that — you could see that in the way they played."

Pulisic, the Americans' star midfielder, captained the U.S. for the second time and fed fellow 20-year-old McKennie for the goal. Pulisic cut in from a flank and crossed, and McKennie headed in the ball from 4 yards for his second goal in 12 international appear-

ances.

"That's one of my strengths, running into the box late," McKennie said. "I always tell him to look for me. He knows to look for me. That's a little something we work on together."

Playing near his hometown of Hershey, Pulisic shot just wide in the second minute and was denied in the fourth when goalkeeper Eloy Room, while falling to his left, reached to his right to tip his shot over the crossbar.

"I wanted to lead the team from the start," Pulisic said. "In the end, we needed to finish more chances to make it much easier on ourselves."

Curacao had 60 percent possession in the second half and outshot the U.S. 15-10 overall. American goalkeeper Zack Steffen, a native of suburban Philadelphia, made a leaping save on Leandro Bacuna in the 84th minute.

The 30th-ranked Americans have outscored opponents 12-0 in the tournament, the championship of North and Central America and the Caribbean, and have held opponents scoreless for 405 minutes overall.

Gregg Berhalter, hired as U.S. coach in December, said it was a tactical decision to fall back and not press in the second half, which allowed Curacao to control possession. □



South Africa's Caster Semenya approaches the finish line to win the women's 800-meter race during the Prefontaine Classic, an IAAF Diamond League athletics meeting, in Stanford, Calif., Sunday, June 30, 2019.

Associated Press

Semenya wins women's 800, wants to defend world title

By MICHAEL WAGAMAN

Associated Press

STANFORD, Calif. (AP) — Caster Semenya easily won the women's 800 at the Prefontaine Classic on Sunday, as an international court continues to debate her future in the event.

The reigning Olympic champion and embattled three-time world champion won in 1 minute, 55.70 seconds, nearly three seconds ahead of second-place Aje Wilson, in the highly anticipated race at Cobb Track and Angell Field. It's the fastest-time ever on American soil.

"We're happy with the win but not how we ran the race," Semenya said. "Obviously, when you're running 800 meters it's all about the splits that you run. We're not really calculated well but at the end of the day you have to execute, you have to rectify those mistakes when you're running a race."

It was the first time Semenya ran the 800 since Switzerland's supreme court ruled her eligible while it considers her appeal against a new IAAF rule capping testosterone levels in women's events from the 400 to mile. One of a handful of runners affected by the IAAF rules, Semenya has been fighting back. The 28-year-old South African refused

to take medication to be in compliance and initially planned to side-step it at the Prefontaine by registering to run the 3,000. She was eventually cleared in time for the seventh stop on the Diamond League circuit.

"When I run I forget about everything. It's just all about me," Semenya said. "It's all about me doing what I love. I treat people with respect and I appreciate them for who they are. I accept them. That's what I do. For me it's all about inspiring the youth so they can be better."

Semenya trailed early but took the lead on the back stretch of the second lap and cruised across the line more than 15 meters ahead of Wilson, who finished in 1:58.36.

Wilson, the American record holder in the 800, was glad to see Semenya cleared to race.

"Absolutely I think she be allowed to run," Wilson said. "I think everybody should be allowed to compete. The parameters surrounding that, I'm not sure about, but I definitely think she should be able to do what she wants."

What's next for Semenya is uncertain. She plans to take four weeks off before resuming her circuit, and

will await the next ruling from the Swiss court.

A federal judge's decision is expected within days on whether to extend an interim suspension of the IAAF rules that Semenya requested. A final verdict from a panel of judges is expected to take several months.

It means Semenya is currently in line to defend her title at the World Championships in Doha, Qatar in September. That's where Semenya ran a world-leading 1:54.98 on May 3 in her last 800 before Sunday.

If the IAAF rules are re-applied this month, Semenya's appearance in the 800 at the Prefontaine may be her last.

"My goal is to defend my world title," Semenya said. "If I'm not allowed, I'm not allowed. I don't give a damn. This is a legal battle. It's like war. You don't give up. I'm a world champ, I'm an Olympic champion. I've achieved everything that I've ever wanted. At the end of the day I'm just doing it for those that cannot fight for themselves."

Semenya acknowledged having difficulty adjusting to the time change for the race in California. Shouldering the fight against the IAAF has also taken its toll, but Semenya is determined to push on. □

Facebook to make jobs, credit ads searchable for U.S. users

BOSTON (AP) — Facebook says it will make advertisements for jobs, loans and credit card offers searchable for all U.S. users following a legal settlement designed to eliminate discrimination on its platform. The plan disclosed in an internal report Sunday voluntarily expands on a commitment the social media giant made in March when it agreed to make its U.S. housing ads searchable by location and advertiser.

Ads were only delivered selectively to Facebook users based on such data as what they earn, their education level and where they shop.

The audit's leader, former American Civil Liberties Union executive Laura Murphy, was hired by Facebook in May 2018 to assess its performance on vital social issues.

Murphy has consulted with dozens of civil rights groups on the subject as part of her yearlong audit, assisted by lawyers from the firm Relman, Dane & Colfax. Sunday's 26-page report, which also deals with content moderation and enforcement and efforts to prevent meddling in the 2020 U.S. elections and census, was her second update.

The searchable housing ads database will roll out by the end of 2019, Facebook says, and Murphy said she expects the employment and financial product offerings databases to be available within the next year.

Murphy said she's "very excited" about the move she believes will positively impact the social mobility of



This March 29, 2018 file photo shows the Facebook logo on screens at the Nasdaq MarketSite in New York's Times Square.

Associated Press

millions in the United States. Targeted ads tailored to individuals are Facebook's bread and butter — accounting for all but a sliver of its more than \$50 billion in annual revenues last year. It's unlikely that making the ads searchable would have a significant effect on Facebook's business. Analysts have cautioned, however, that any restrictions on Facebook's ability to target ads could scare off advertisers.

The move is likely part of Facebook's strategy to show regulators that is doing a good job policing its own service — putting it in compliance with existing anti-discrimination law — and doesn't need a heavy-

handed approach from lawmakers. It comes as the company is facing increasing regulatory pressures.

As part of the settlement with plaintiffs including the ACLU and the National Fair Housing Alliance, Facebook agreed in March to stop targeting people based on age, gender and zip code and to also eliminate such categories as national origin and sexual orientation.

The groups had sued claiming Facebook violated anti-discrimination laws by preventing audiences including single mothers and the disabled from seeing many housing ads — while some job ads were not reaching women and older workers.

Galen Sherwin, senior staff attorney at the ACLU and the group's lead attorney in the case, said making the three Facebook databases searchable by anyone "definitely creates greater access to information about economic opportunities."

Civil rights groups are concerned that the secretive, proprietary algorithms that govern how the company steers ads — even when not consciously targeting specific groups — could still be discriminatory.

"I wish we could see into the black box," Sherwin said. Facebook still faces a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development complaint over housing

ad-targeting and delivery. Murphy, the auditor, said she thinks the company understands it's "going to have to look at the algorithms" behind them.

The company also faces privacy and anti-trust investigations in the U.S. and Europe over its invasive data collection practices and struggles to police hate speech globally with sometimes lethal repercussions. Facebook is currently in talks to create an external oversight board to monitor such issues and its level of independence is one subject of debate.

Sunday's audit update also addresses Facebook's efforts to shed "harmful content," including a new U.S. pilot program where dedicated monitors will focus on hate speech alone. A few dozen are involved so far, the company said. All come from the more than 20,000 outsourced content moderators who screen the 2.3 billion-user platform, the company said.

Audit team recommendations include ending a carve-out for humor as an exception in hate speech and devising better mechanisms for blocking harassment, which can be especially overwhelming when automated.

Simply defining actionable hate speech — which can vary by nation, region, language and cultural context — is a tall order.

The report says Facebook is committed to stepping up efforts to fight voting suppression in 2020 elections and plans to have ready by fall policies to counter attempts to interfere in the census. □

Facebook mail site evacuated after possible sarin scare

MENLO PARK, Calif. (AP) — A Facebook mail facility near company headquarters was evacuated Monday after a routine check found mail possibly containing the nerve agent sarin.

Authorities put the site under quarantine as they conducted additional testing. Four buildings were

evacuated and three have been cleared for people to come back in, said Facebook spokesman Anthony Harrison in a statement. The suspicious package was delivered around 11 a.m. to one of the company's mail rooms, he said. "Authorities have not yet identified the substance found," Harrison wrote.

There were no reports of injuries, Menlo Park Fire Marshal Jon Johnston said. Incoming mail undergoing routine processing by machine tested positive for sarin, but it could have been a false positive, Johnston said.

"Right now we don't have anybody that has any symptoms," he said.

"We're just doing verification."

The FBI is assisting in the investigation, as is common in incidents such as this one.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says sarin is a chemical warfare agent that is a clear, colorless, odorless and tasteless liquid. It can

evaporate into the environment, prompting symptoms within seconds.

A drop of sarin on skin can cause sweating and muscle twitching, and exposure to large doses can result in paralysis and respiratory failure leading to death. The CDC says people who are mildly exposed usually recover completely. □

Why wealth gap has grown despite record-long economic growth

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As it enters its 11th year, America's economic expansion is now the longest on record — a streak that has shrunk unemployment, swelled household wealth, revived the housing market and helped fuel an explosive rise in the stock market. Yet even after a full decade of uninterrupted economic growth, the richest Americans now hold a greater share of the nation's wealth than they did before the Great Recession began in 2007. And income growth has been sluggish by historical standards, leaving many Americans feeling stuck in place.

Those trends help explain something unique about this expansion: It's easily the least-celebrated economic recovery in decades.

As public discontent has grown, the issue has become one for political candidates to harness — beginning with Donald Trump in 2016. Now, some of the Democrats running to challenge Trump for the presidency have built their campaigns around proposals to tax wealth, raise minimum wages or ease the financial strain of medical care and higher education.



In this Wednesday, June 26, 2019, photo Hannah Moore poses for a portrait in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

America's financial disparities have widened in large part because the means by which people build wealth have become more exclusive since the Great Recession.

Fewer middle-class Americans own homes. Fewer are invested in the stock market. And home prices have risen far more in wealthier metro areas on the coasts than in more modestly priced cities and rural areas. The result is that affluent homeowners now sit on vast sums of home

equity and capital gains, while tens of millions of ordinary households have been left mainly on the sidelines.

"The recovery has been very disappointing from the standpoint of inequality," said Gabriel Zucman, an economist at the University of California, Berkeley, and a leading expert on income and wealth distribution.

Household wealth — the value of homes, stock portfolios and bank accounts, minus mortgage and credit

card debt and other loans — jumped 80% in the past decade. More than one-third of that gain — \$16.2 trillion in riches — went to the wealthiest 1%, figures from the Federal Reserve show. Just 25% of it went to middle-to-upper-middle class households. The bottom half of the population gained less than 2%.

Nearly 8 million Americans lost homes in the recession and its aftermath, and the sharp price gains since then have put ownership out of reach for many would-be

buyers. For America's middle class, the homeownership rate fell to about 60% in 2016 from roughly 70% in 2004, before the housing bubble, according to separate Fed data.

The other major engine of household wealth — the stock market — hasn't much benefited most people, either. The longest bull market in U.S. history, which surpassed its own 10-year mark in March, has shot equity prices up more than four-fold. Yet the proportion of middle-income households that own shares has actually declined.

The Fed calculates that about half of middle-income Americans owned shares in 2016, the most recent year for which data is available, down from 56% in 2007. That includes people who hold stocks in retirement accounts.

The decline in stock market participation occurred mainly because more middle-income workers took contract work or other jobs that offered no retirement savings plans, the Fed concluded.

Hannah Moore, now 37, has struggled to save since graduating from college in December 2007, the same month the Great Recession officially began. □

US manufacturing growth slows in June for 3rd straight month

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. factory activity grew at a slower pace in June for the third straight month as measures of new orders and inventories fell.

The Institute for Supply Management, an association of purchasing managers, said Monday that its manufacturing index slipped to 51.7 last month from 52.1 in May. Any reading above 50 signals an expansion.

While the sector is still growing, the report pointed to an ongoing weakening in U.S. manufacturing. Trade fights with China, Europe and Mexico, as well as an increase in the dollar's value, have cut into U.S. exports and increased uncertainty for American

manufacturers.

A measure of new orders dropped to 50, which means they were unchanged. Manufacturers are also holding fewer supplies, a sign they are worried that demand could slow further.

"It's concerning," said Tim Fiore, chair of the ISM's manufacturing survey committee. "This is going down faster than I would like."

The ISM surveys purchasing managers at manufacturing firms, nearly half of whom said that trade policy was negatively affecting their businesses in some way.

"Tariffs are causing an increase in the cost of goods, meaning U.S. consumers

are paying more for products," a chemical manufacturer told the ISM.

A measure of new export orders was just 50.5, suggesting overseas demand is barely growing. Overall order backlogs are also shrinking, and customers' inventories, while still declining, are doing so more slowly. When manufacturers' customers hold larger stockpiles, that means they order fewer goods from factories.

There were some positive signs: Production and employment increased at a faster pace in June.

President Donald Trump has postponed two of his largest, most recent tariff threats, but that hasn't



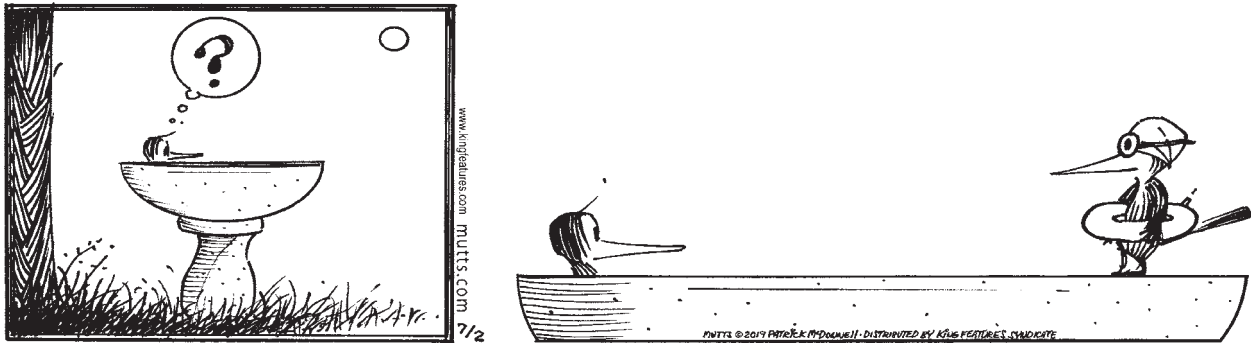
In this June 24, 2019, file photo machines work on a Ford vehicle assembly line at Ford's Chicago Assembly Plant in Chicago.

Associated Press

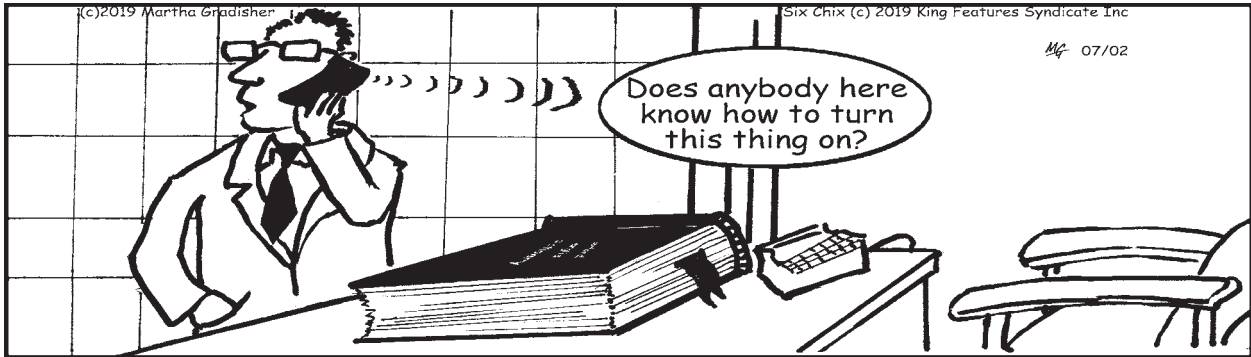
fully removed the threat to manufacturers. He agreed over the weekend to hold more trade talks with China, rather than impose import taxes on \$300 billion

of Chinese imports. He also delayed an across-the-board 25% duty on all imports from Mexico, which he threatened to impose in May. □

Mutts



6 Chix



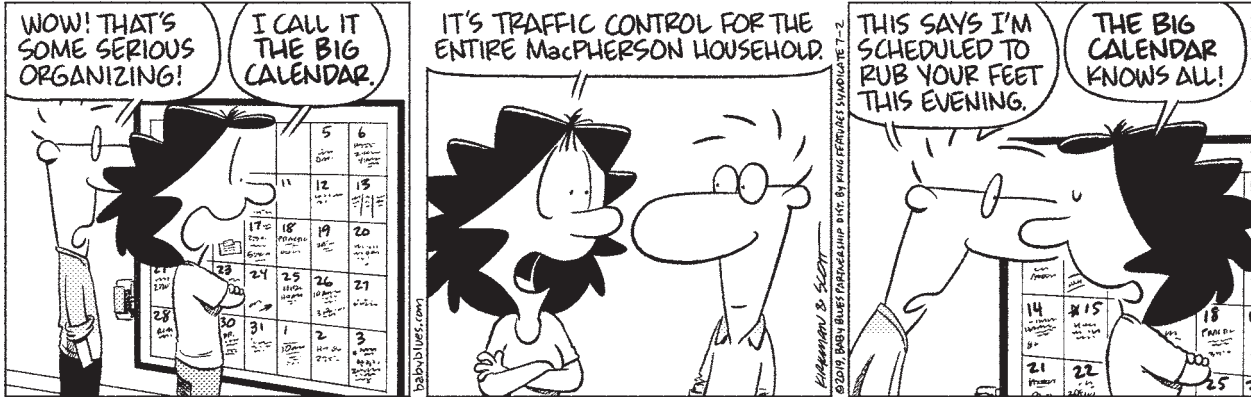
Blondie



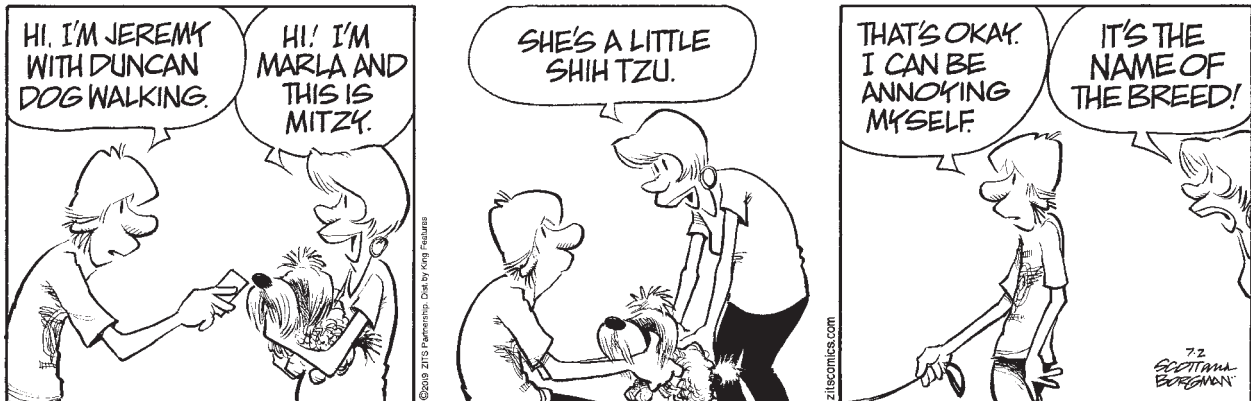
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

4		8			7			2
	2			4			8	
		7	2			9		3
7						8		
	5						2	
		1						6
5		3			8	1		
	6			3			5	
8			5			7		4

Difficulty Level ★★

7/02

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

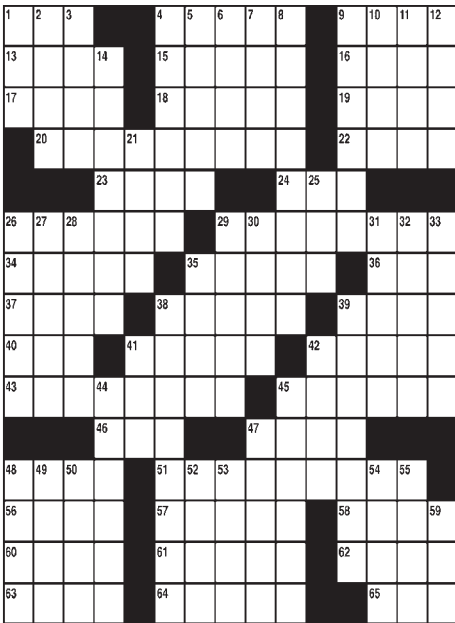
3	6	8	5	1	2	7	4	9
1	9	5	7	8	4	2	3	6
7	2	4	9	6	3	5	8	1
9	4	6	1	7	8	3	2	5
2	3	1	4	5	6	8	9	7
5	8	7	3	2	9	1	6	4
8	1	3	6	9	7	4	5	2
4	5	9	2	3	1	6	7	8
6	7	2	8	4	5	9	1	3

ACROSS

- 1 "One ___ customer"; sale item sign
4 Vine-covered lattice shelter
9 Mr. Gingrich
13 Allies' WWII foe
15 Daniel or Pat
16 Sore
17 Largest city on the French Riviera
18 Flies alone
19 Lower leg part
20 Consequently
22 Partial amount
23 Bowler's focus
24 Adv. business deg.
26 No-nonsense
29 Springs back
34 Elephant's nose
35 Objectives
36 Cereal grain
37 Pealed
38 1 of the 5 senses
39 Bull, in Spanish
40 Late great heavyweight
41 Stuns
42 ___ Rica
43 Breakfast order
45 Most miffed
46 Afternoon hour
47 Wreck
48 Bread for a gyro
51 Move like a desk fan
56 Lion's cry
57 Bank safe
58 Specks
60 ___ up; confesses
61 Glowing bit of coal
62 "___ in Love with Amy"
63 Wise man
64 All prepared
65 That woman

DOWN

- 1 "Peter ___"
2 Way out
3 Well-to-do
4 Not in class



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/2/19

Monday's Puzzle Solved

5	Housetops	48	___ and cons
6	Filipino knife	39	Violent
7	___ about; approximately	41	Actor Aykroyd
8	Look like	42	Bedspring
9	Capital of the Bahamas	44	Like gritty sandpaper
10	Repeated sound	45	Hot and humid
11	On a ___; impulsively	47	Angered
12	Emmy winner Daly	38	Assume control
14	Oozing	39	Violent
21	Singer Springfield	41	Actor Aykroyd
25	Derek & others	42	Bedspring
26	Narrow leather strip	44	Like gritty sandpaper
27	"The flowers that bloom in the spring, ___"	45	Hot and humid
28	Altercation	47	Angered
29	Mother's Day gift, perhaps	38	Assume control
30	Dines	39	Violent
31	Adjustable loop	41	Actor Aykroyd
32	Pub game	42	Bedspring
33	Short-tailed weasel	44	Like gritty sandpaper
35	Long look	45	Hot and humid

© 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

7/2/19

Fatal lion attack nets 3 'serious' violations for center

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — North Carolina labor officials have cited an animal sanctuary for safety violations after a lion fatally mauled a 22-year old intern last December.

The state Occupational Safety and Health Division issued a citation Thursday for three "serious" violations to the Conservator's Center in Caswell County. Because Alexandra Black

was an unpaid intern, the division could not issue a direct citation for her death, according to an emailed statement from the state labor department. Officials issued a citation after determining that other employees were exposed to hazards. The citation said that all violations must be corrected immediately. The center also must pay penalties of \$3,000. □



Editor

Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.
Acc. #23951903
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

Assistant Director

Xiomara Arends

Editor in Chief

Linda Reijnders
(linda.reijnders@cspnv.com)
Liza Koolman (Management assistant)

Editors

Richard Brooks
Jeancarlo Trinidad

Sales

Linda Reijnders
(linda.reijnders@cspnv.com)
Sulaika Croes

Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website

Cristian Soto Garcia
Pilar Flores
Juan Luis Pinto

Columnists

Anthony Croes
Joris Zantvoort
Shanella Pantophlet
Steve Franceses
Thais Franken

Weststraat 22
T: 582-7800

E: news@arubatoday.com
W: www.arubatoday.com
f @arubatoday



TIMESHARES FOR SALE! AMAZING DEALS UP FOR GRABS!

Renaissance Aruba

Week 26 Unit 2520 - \$3,200
Week 27 Unit 2520 - \$3,200
Week 27 Unit 2147 - \$5,000
Week 30 Unit 2546 - \$5,500
Week 30 Unit 2307 - \$3,500
Week 31 Unit 2307 - \$3,500
Week 33 Unit 2535 - \$8,000
Week 34 Unit 2535 - \$8,000

La Cabana BRC

Week 29 & 30 Unit 419D - \$4,000 BOTH
Week 30 Unit 227A - \$3,500
Week 33 Unit 138A - \$2,250
Week 34 Unit 138A - \$2,250
Week 36 Unit 124B - \$4,000
Week 45 Unit 424AB - \$16,400
Week 46 Unit 316C - \$5,200
Contact us now!

CALL US AT (297) 737 3006 OR E-MAIL AT ZACH@BUYARUBATIMESHARES.COM

Classifieds

ASSOCIATED REALTORS For Sale

Gorgeous two story house on a hill with ocean/country view in Paradera, 3 bedrooms/ 3 bathrooms with pool for \$470,000
Call Mito at 593 6318 for more details

211397

ASSOCIATED REALTORS For Sale

Commercial property close to the new Container Port in Barcadera, build-up 424 m2, land 2400 m2 for \$337,078.
For more details contact Mito at 593 6318

211397

ASSOCIATED REALTORS For Sale

Two story house with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms at Kibaima/ Sta. Cruz on property land, with ocean view for \$299,000
Contact Mito at 593 6318

211397

Halley Time Travel

ArubaDiviPhoenix
1BR Wk27 building 8
6th floor studio wk #27/28
30 weeks remain
1BR \$8500
Studio \$7000

ArubaDiviPhoenix
Studio wk27 frontvillas
Grondfloor 17 weeks \$5500
1BR WK30 building 6
3rd floor 32weeks \$8500

Marriott Ocean Club
Platinum Season
1BR Ocean View \$12K
1BR Ocean Front \$18K
2BR Ocean View \$18K
2BR Ocean Front \$28K
Gold season
1BR Ocean View \$5K
2BR Ocean View \$8K
2BR Ocean Front \$12K

Marriott Surf Club
Platinum Season
2BR Garden View \$15K
2BR Ocean View \$17K
2BR Ocean Side \$18K
2BR Ocean Front \$27K
3BR Ocean View \$28K

Marriott Surf Club
Gold Season
2BR Garden View \$7K
2BR Ocean View \$8K
2BR Ocean Side \$9K
2BR Ocean Front \$12K
3BR Ocean View \$15K
Call: 630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
arubaresalesrealty@hotmail.com
facebookpage :resales&realty



HEALTH

DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

IMSAN 24 Hours
Tel.524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:

Eagle Tel. 587 9011
San Nicolas:
San Nicolas Tel. 584 5712

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

CRUISES



July 02
Freedom of the Seas
July 03
Monarch

AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Women in Difficulties
Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



This January 2017 photo provided by Ted Scambos shows sea ice on the ocean surrounding Antarctica during an expedition to the Ross Sea.

Associated Press

Floating Antarctic ice goes from record high to record lows

WASHINGTON (AP) — The amount of ice circling Antarctica is suddenly plunging from a record high to record lows, baffling scientists.

Floating ice off the southern continent steadily increased from 1979 and hit a record high in 2014. But three years later, the annual average extent of Antarctic sea ice hit its lowest mark, wiping out three-and-a-half decades of gains — and then some, a NASA study of satellite data shows.

In recent years, "things have been crazy," said Mark Serreze, director of the National Snow and Ice Data Center. In an email, he called the plummeting ice levels "a white-knuckle ride."

Serreze and other outside experts said they don't

know if this is a natural blip that will go away or more long-term global warming that is finally catching up with the South Pole. Antarctica hasn't showed as much consistent warming as its northern Arctic cousin.

"But the fact that a change this big can happen in such a short time should be viewed as an indication that the Earth has the potential for significant and rapid change," University of Colorado ice scientist Waleed Abdalati said in an email.

At the polar regions, ice levels grow during the winter and shrink in the summer. Around Antarctica, sea ice averaged 4.9 million square miles (12.8 million square kilometers) in 2014. By 2017, it was a record low of 4.1 million square miles

(10.7 million square kilometers, according to the study in Monday's Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The difference covers an area bigger than the size of Mexico. Losing that much in just three years "is pretty incredible" and faster than anything scientists have seen before, said study author Claire Parkinson, a NASA climate scientist. Antarctic sea ice increased slightly in 2018, but still was the second lowest since 1979. Even though ice is growing this time of year in Antarctica, levels in May and June this year were the lowest on record, eclipsing 2017, according to the ice data center.

Ice melting on the ocean surface doesn't change sea level. Non-scientists who reject mainstream climate science often had pointed at increasing Antarctic sea ice to deny or downplay the loss of Arctic sea ice. While the Arctic has shown consistent and generally steady warming and ice melt — with some slight year to year variation — Antarctica has had more ups and downs while generally trending upward. □

Video game designer establishes lab for renewable energy

KAILUA-KONA, Hawaii (AP)

— A Dutch video game designer and entrepreneur has established a laboratory on the Big Island that is focused on developing alternatives to fossil fuels for energy, the Hawaii Tribune-Herald reported.

Henk Rogers established the laboratory to test and develop renewable energy systems that he hopes will make the state's energy use 100% renewable by 2045, ending the state's reliance on fossil fuels that Rogers says is adding acid to the ocean and killing the coral reef, the newspaper reported Sunday.

The laboratory, which is on a ranch, is currently focused on the use of hydrogen to create energy. The laboratory wants to use hydrogen energy cells to store the energy harnessed by the solar panels, to power the community water system, to create jobs and to cook food, the Tribune-Herald reported.

The laboratory is run under the auspices of Rogers' Blue

Planet Foundation. One of Rogers' software companies has the intellectual property rights to Tetris, according to the foundation's website.

Blue Planet wants to combine the use of solar energy and hydrogen energy cells. Because solar is an intermittent power source, it's important to be able to store the energy to use during off-peak hours. There's usually 3.8 hours of quality sunshine in the mornings at the ranch, but the sky clouds over as the day progresses. "We knew storage was important and the key," said Paul Ponthieux, director and chief technology officer of Blue Planet Research. "We have to grab all our energy in the limited window."

The laboratory uses solar energy to pass an electric current through water to create hydrogen gas and oxygen, the newspaper reports. The hydrogen is then stored under pressure in energy cells, similar to a battery. □

Melted Alaska sea ice alarms coast residents, scientists

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)

— Sea ice along northern Alaska disappeared far earlier than normal this spring, alarming coastal residents who rely on wildlife and fish.

Ice melted as a result of exceptionally warm ocean temperatures, the Anchorage Daily News reported. The early melting has been "crazy," said Janet Mitchell of Kivalina. Hunters from her family in early June traveled more than 50 miles (80 kilometers) by boat to find bearded seals on sea ice. Bearded seals in the past could be hunted just outside the village but sea ice had receded far to the north.

"We didn't know if we'd have our winter food," she said. "That was scary."

The hunters ran out of gas after harvesting eight seals and a walrus. They were able to call other residents to deliver fuel, Mitchell said. Rick Thoman, a climatologist with the Alaska Center for Climate Assessment & Policy at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, posted on social media last week that the northern Bering and southern Chukchi seas are "baking."

The last five years have produced the warmest sea-surface temperatures on record in the region, contributing to record low sea-ice levels. □



Honey Dolls
MASSAGE AND ESCORT SERVICE
Beautiful Latin Girls
Pick-up & Delivery

Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders
 Bachelor Party Specialized, the best in the Caribbean
Call: 565-9535

Cody Johnson is bridging the Texas-Nashville musical gap

By KRISTIN M. HALL

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) —

Ever since Willie Nelson left Nashville in the early 1970s to return to Texas, there's been a large chasm between the "red dirt" country artists working primarily in Texas and Oklahoma and the polished, radio friendly music being produced in Nashville.

Even today, there's a separate country radio chart for Texas stations and the independent country acts that are popular there often get labeled in Nashville as just "regional artists."

East Texas-raised Cody Johnson spent more than a decade in that musical scene and heard the distrust that many Texas country artists had for Nashville record labels.

"There were a lot of artists from that era who were probably a bit arrogant in the fact that 'I'm from Texas and I've got this and you're not going to tell me what to do,'" Johnson said. "I think there has been something lost on some guys from Texas that maybe thought they were Willie or Waylon." Johnson, a former rodeo cowboy turned country singer, wants to bridge that gap by straddling the traditional and the modern, Texas and Nashville, and



This June 4, 2019 file photo shows country singer Cody Johnson performing during the CMT Cross Roads Brooks & Dunn and Friends live taping on Broadway in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

he's finding an audience his own way.

Warner Music Nashville's executive vice president for A&R Cris Lacy tried to sign Johnson for years, but he kept rejecting their offers. Lacy knew that major labels often got stereotyped as being heavy handed with new artists by changing their sound or forcing they work with certain producers. But she was also try-

ing to overcome a cultural challenge.

"There's so much pride in the Texas music scene because it is so special," Lacy said. "They are very protective of it. And each Texas artist has to think about when they move on to the next step, are they going to alienate the people that believed in them?"

As an independent artist, Johnson released two al-

bums that reached the top 10 without major label support or distribution and sold out the Houston Rodeo with 74,000 tickets. But Johnson knew that he couldn't make the next leap without the support of a label and commercial country radio. Last year, Johnson signed a deal with Warner Music Nashville in a 50-50 partnership with his own imprint called CoJo Music.

He made it clear that he wanted creative control, including choosing his own producer and songs, owning his own publishing and even deciding how he dressed.

"There were a lot of people that wanted to change a lot about me. This being a huge factor for a lot of people," he said, pointing to his cowboy hat.

His debut as a Warner artist, "Ain't Nothin' To It," hit the top of Billboard's country album chart in January, and his first single from that album, "On My Way To You," peaked at No. 11 on Billboard's Country Airplay Chart, his best charting single yet. He's opening up for George Strait and Blake Shelton at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts, in August. He also opened for Luke Combs, one of country radio's fastest rising stars, on select dates this summer.

Johnson's album reflects the traditional country he idolizes but adds elements of gospel, rock and blues to sound fresh for younger ears. He chose a honky-tonk blues song written by Chris Stapleton, a rocking Charlie Daniels cover, a couple songs about the rodeo, a gospel song and a cover of Roger Miller's "Husbands and Wives." □

Old friends return in Doiron's 'Almost Midnight'

By BRUCE DESILVA

Associated Press

"Almost Midnight," by Paul Doiron (Minotaur)

In nine previous crime novels, Paul Doiron's protagonist, Maine game warden Mike Bowditch, has made more than his share of friends and enemies. Now, in "Almost Midnight," two friends featured in earlier books return, and both are in desperate need of help. One of them is Billy Cronk, an ex-soldier who's prone to paranoia, fiercely loyal, and capable of explosive violence. In an earlier book, Cronk saved Bowditch's life by shooting two gunmen, impetuously dispatching one, who already been

rendered helpless, with a bullet to the head.

The other friend is Shadow, a wolf-dog hybrid that Bowditch once rescued from a couple of meth heads and briefly considered keeping as a pet before the beast broke free and fled into the woods.

The plot begins when Cronk calls Bowditch from prison, where he is doing time for that head shot. He begs Bowditch to look into the background of a prison guard but won't explain why. Chalking it up to Cronk's paranoia, Bowditch declines.

But within hours, two shiv-wielding cons ambush the guard. Cronk comes to the

rescue, kills one of the attackers, and gets stabbed in the gut for his trouble.

Not long after, a game warden who patrols a mountainous territory near the Androscoggin River calls Bowditch with more bad news. Shadow has been found at a ramshackle farm, the bolt from a crossbow protruding from his torso.

Investigating the prison stabbing is a job for the state police. Because Shadow was shot outside of Bowditch's territory, that's none of his business either. But Bowditch has never been one to stand on protocol. Soon, he's racing between the shoreline,

where the prison is located, and the mountains, where Shadow was found, hell-bent on figuring out what his human and canine friends have gotten themselves into.

The Cronk case proves far more complicated, involving a conspiracy that puts prisoners, prison guards and even Cronk's family in mortal peril. The Shadow case is difficult as well, hampered by a lack of cooperation from hostile mountain folk. As usual in a Doiron novel, the characters are well drawn, the Maine landscape is vividly portrayed, and Bowditch pursues his passion to protect the innocent and bring



This cover image released by Minotaur shows "Almost Midnight," a novel by Paul Doiron.

Associated Press

evil doers to justice regardless personal cost. □

'Toy Story 4' repeats at No. 1 over 'Annabelle,' 'Yesterday'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Toy Story 4" hung onto the top spot in its second week in theaters and the horror sequel "Annabelle Comes Home" opened in line with expectations, but the Cinderella story of the weekend was actually the third place movie: "Yesterday." The Danny Boyle-directed musical romantic comedy featuring the music of the Beatles debuted well over industry expectations,

earning an estimated \$17 million from North American theaters. In a summer where most films have debuted either under or at industry tracking, which are often lowball projections, and original comedies have struggled to find audiences, "Yesterday" proved to be the exception. Starring relative newcomer Himesh Patel, "Yesterday" imagines a world where only one man remembers



This undated image provided by Disney/Pixar shows a scene from the movie "Toy Story 4." Associated Press


[illegible]

the music of the Beatles and decides to present their catalog of hits as his own.

Although critics were mixed, audiences, who were mostly female (56 and over the age of 25 (75%)) have embraced the film with an A- CinemaScore and a 90% audience score on Rotten Tomatoes. Universal's President of Domestic Theatrical Distribution Jim Orr says he tries to use the word "thrilled" judiciously, but that it ap-

plies here. "Among all of the sequels and all of the explosions of the summer, this is a very charming, original, whimsical musical romance with iconic music and amazing performances... (and direction)," Orr said. "All of that adds up to a great, great run at the domestic box office." Even Warner Bros., which has the Bruce Springsteen-themed film "Blinded by the Light" coming later this summer was heartened by "Yesterday's" launch, which

motivated a solidly adult demographic to trek out to the movie theater on opening weekend. As Comscore senior media analyst Paul Dergarabedian put it: "It's not always the No. 1 film that's the big story."

The No. 1 film was once again "Toy Story 4," which added \$57.9 million from domestic theaters, down 52% from its debut last weekend. Globally the film has already netted \$496.5 million. 

Kaley Cuoco takes a dramatic turn after 'Big Bang Theory'



In this Jan. 13, 2019, file photo, Kaley Cuoco poses in the press room at the 24th annual Critics' Choice Awards at the Barker Hangar in Santa Monica, Calif.

Associated Press

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kaley Cuoco is making a big move after wrapping 12 seasons with "The Big Bang Theory," with a new production deal and a pivot from comedy to drama.

Cuoco has signed an exclusive, multi-year deal with Warner Bros. Television Group, the company

said Monday. The agreement keeps Cuoco in business with the studio that produced "The Big Bang Theory," the CBS comedy in which Cuoco played Penny. It ended its hit run last May.

In a statement, Cuoco said she was excited to continue an "incredibly collaborative and gratifying

relationship" with Warner, adding, "They're stuck with me now!" Financial terms of the deal were not announced.

Her first announced project is the hour-long series "The Flight Attendant," a thriller based on the novel of the same name by Chris Bohjalian. It will be made for the WarnerMedia streaming service set to launch for consumers in early 2020.

Under the deal, Cuoco and her production company will develop ideas for original TV projects through various Warner TV group divisions. The projects will be aimed at platforms including broadcast, cable and streaming, the company said.

A holding agreement for Cuoco's acting services is part of the overall deal, with Warner developing new series with her in mind. The company and Cuoco, 33, signed a previous deal in 2017. □

Essence Fest marks 25 years of celebrating black culture

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The Essence Festival, which draws thousands to New Orleans during the fourth of July week, is celebrating 25 years of bringing African American women of all ages together for thought-provoking conversation and performances from top musical acts.

Launched to mark the 25th anniversary of black-owned Essence magazine, the festival has become a yearly celebration to highlight excellence in business, fashion, entertainment, and, of course, music.

It is a destination vacation for African American women, which was showcased in the 2017 hit movie "Girls Trip." The movie —which starred Regina Hall, Queen Latifah, Jada Pinkett Smith, and Tiffany Haddish in a breakout role — centered on four longtime friends who reunited at Essence.

The festival is July 5-7 and has two parts: daytime activities and panel discussions mainly held at the convention center and nighttime music and concerts at the Superdome.

The Associated Press spoke to some performers and thought leaders who've made frequent appearances and to a relatively new performer who is moving up to the main stage this year about what they like about the festival and why they return.

MARY J. BLIGE

The Grammy Award-winning songstress is no stranger to the festival, having closed the show many times in the past.

She's scheduled to take the main stage Saturday at the Superdome.

This year, though, is extra special, she said. The festival marks 25 years and so does her album, "My Life." It's a milestone that "feels great."

"It's one of the most important albums of my career. It's when I started a relationship with my fans," she said. "I could tour on that album for the rest of my life and not make another song."

Blige said she never doubted the festival would reach



In this April 14, 2019 file photo, H.E.R. performs at the Coachella Music & Arts Festival at the Empire Polo Club in Indio, Calif.

Associated Press

the quarter-century mark. "It's been nothing but huge since Day 1," she said. "People from all over the world and all walks of life flock to this big, black event. Everyone's coming to see what's going on, to come to New Orleans, to eat. The food down there is crazy good and there's a party every other night. There's lots of entrepreneurship around, there's gospel, there's everything. It's just phenomenal."

Blige received BET's Lifetime Achievement Award in June.

REV. AL SHARPTON

Sharpton has attended and participated in every festival since its inception in 1994. And, as a result, he said he stays on his toes.

"Everywhere I go, people tell me 'I will see you at Essence,'" he said. "That forces me to think of a new speech every year."

Sharpton generally appears during the daytime activities at the convention center. Festivalgoers can attend any number of panel discussions or presentations on issues such as politics, economic wealth,

health care and entrepreneurship. He said the festival has become the "central meeting place for black people, black women specifically."

"It's a celebration of who we are and the diversity of us in terms of our talents and our gifts. It's the perfect mix of entertainment and information," he said.

Sharpton recalled when the magazine's co-founder, Edward Lewis, started the project: "When I was on that first leadership panel at the first festival I thought, this was just a one-time thing."

But since then, the festival has grown from a few exhibitions to a destination for Fortune 500 companies, top lecturers, business minds and CEOs, Sharpton said.

MAZE, FEATURING FRANKIE BEVERLY

This year the festival is paying tribute to one of its longtime stars: Maze, featuring Frankie Beverly.

For 15 years, Beverly and Maze closed the Essence Festival, often turning the Superdome floor into a sea of dancing fans. Bev-

erly has an almost cult-like following with devoted fans who sing along with him. During a Maze performance, fans can be seen dancing in the aisles, many wearing white clothing as Beverly often does.

He says he's always amazed to see how fans react.

"They don't have to do that, but it shows they're still into us and to still be in that position to do that, I'm moved and pleased by it. To be back this year is like getting with your family again," he said.

Beverly's run at the festival ended in 2010 when a new producer decided to end the long tradition of Maze as the closer. Many fans were disappointed despite the great talent tapped to close such as Beyonce, Lionel Richie, Aretha Franklin and Earth, Wind and Fire. In 2015, Beverly returned for an appearance that coincided with the festival's recognition of the 10-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

On this year's final night, the festival is scheduled to pay tribute to Beverly for his lifetime contribution to music. The tribute will feature

a special performance by Anthony Hamilton.

H.E.R.

The Grammy winning singer-songwriter returns to the festival this year but moves to the main stage instead of the Superlounge — smaller venues set up in the Superdome's cavernous halls.

"I'm so excited," she said. "It's just honestly crazy but dope too because last year, people were telling me I should have been on the main stage and now I am."

H.E.R., whose real name is Gabriella Wilson, said she's looking forward to being on stage the same night as icons Blige and first lady Michelle Obama. She's also eager to sample New Orleans' famous cuisine.

"Essence is one of the places you go if you want (to) see all the beautiful black people from all over the world. It's black excellence at its finest, literally. And having it in New Orleans is the best place because the food is crazy good!"

She hopes her performance is an opportunity to expose those who may not be familiar with her music.

DONNIE MCCLURKIN

Before the thousands of festival-goers head home Sunday, many of them gather at the convention center for a gospel service to connect spiritually.

McClurkin, a pastor and singer, has performed and hosted the service multiple times and says he's looking forward to this year's event. "It's really devoted to us as African Americans, not just women, but to the black experience," McClurkin said. "At this point, it's got to be one of most sought after tickets in the world."

The "We Fall Down" singer said he's awed by the festival's "diversity and appreciation for ethnic accomplishment" and that the event is also a platform for gospel performers.

"It exposes us to people who may not have known us before and gives us an opportunity to minister to people from all walks of life," McClurkin said. □

College music department resurrects long-lost funk music

By KRISTEN DE GROOT

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Back in the summer of 2005, Drexel University's Music Industry program got a very curious phone call.

On the line was the owner of a storage facility in Philadelphia, wondering if the school would be interested in thousands of music studio tapes, seemingly abandoned in a unit for which no rent had been collected in a long time.

The man said the tapes all had the same labels on the side: Sigma Sound Studio.

For aficionados of Philadelphia funk, that's a famous name. In the 1960s and 1970s, Sigma Sound helped create "The Sound of Philadelphia" — the funky soul sound characterized by lush instrumental arrangements often featuring strings and horns. The studio churned out hits like The Trammps' "Disco Inferno" and The Three Degrees' "When Will I See You Again." Many Gamble and Huff hits were recorded there, including The O'Jays' "Love Train."

No one knew the specific items in the stash, but Drexel's music industry program definitely wanted it, said Professor Toby Seay, project director of the university's audio archives.

"The thought was if there are 7,000 tapes coming from the Sigma collection, there's gotta be good stuff in there," he said.

Good stuff indeed. A reel from David Bowie's recording sessions at the studio



In this May 8, 2019 photo shown is a reel from from a Nat Turner Rebellion recording session at the Sigma Sound Studio, at Drexel University in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

while getting together his 1974 "Young Americans" album; tracks from Teddy Pendergrass, Sly Stone, Patti LaBelle, Gladys Knight and Stevie Wonder. As Seay and students slogged through the collection, working to digitize it, there was always the lingering possibility of discovering unheard and unreleased gems. Seay came upon just that in 2011, when he pulled a tape named "Nat Turner Rebellion" off the shelf.

"The song was called 'Tribute to a Slave' and it blew me away," he said of the 1969 recording that packed power, politics and Philly funk and soul. He filed it away and made a note to keep an eye out for more of the band named

after an 1831 slave revolt. Fast forward eight years, and the band's unreleased album "Laugh to Keep From Crying" was released in March on Drexel's student-run MAD Dragon Records label — some 50 years after it was recorded. A New York Times review calls it "a greeting across eras ... vintage socially conscious, tambourine-shaking funk." From 1969 to 1972, the Nat Turner Rebellion recorded for Philly Groove Records, which released a few singles, and opened for the chart-topping Delfonics. The band, led by Joseph Jefferson, broke up after what Jefferson described to the Philadelphia Inquirer as a spat with band member Bill Spratley, who he said pulled a gun on him during an argument over money.

Afterward, Jefferson went on to write a string of hits for other bands, including "One of a Kind (Love Affair)" for the Spinners.

"There was not a thought in my mind that this could have happened," Jefferson told the newspaper after the Nat Turner album's release. "This is what I wanted. Just the recognition for this." At 75, he's the last surviving member of the group.

It wasn't exactly simple getting the album together. In 2012, Reservoir Media Management acquired

Philly Groove Records. Reservoir's Faith Newman discovered more Nat Turner Rebellion tapes. The following year, Newman tracked down Jefferson on Facebook and got his permission to move forward with an album, Seay said. She collaborated with Drexel to assemble it.

"I wanted to put something out commercially that was viable, and that's where the archives come in," said

Marc Offenbach, a music industry veteran who now teaches at the university. His students developed a marketing plan and a social media strategy. Working with Vinyl Me, Please, which is a record subscription service, the students were able to produce the album on vinyl as well as digitally, lending a 1970s-era authenticity to the project. They pressed 5,000 albums, which he said sold out.

"The greatest lesson is that we are actually making a profit," he said. "Just loving the band doesn't work. It's a business."

So far, students and Seay have listened to and digitized only about 10 percent of the music in the collection.

"The students there are probably not even aware of the significance of what they are doing," said Dave Moore, a music historian and Philadelphia soul expert who co-authored "There's That Beat! Guide to the Philly Sound" with Jason Thornton. "But they should have our grateful thanks for what they do in ensuring this music can be preserved and enjoyed for generations to come." □



In this May 8, 2019 photo shown is a reel from Stevie Wonder's recording sessions at the Sigma Sound Studio, at Drexel University in Philadelphia.

Associated Press



In this May 8, 2019 photo Marc Offenbach Assistant Teaching Professor, Music Industry at Drexel University poses for a portrait with music studio tapes from the Sigma Sound Studio collection, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press